



“We shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us”

Winston Churchill

The New Warehouse

As detailed in the August newsletter, we are consolidating our warehouse operations at a single location in Didcot, close to the current Bookpoint site.



It is part of an area that has been designated for significant development with around 400 homes, a supermarket, hotel, restaurant, and substantial office space planned to be built alongside the warehouse.

Planning permission for the site was granted on 17th August and construction will start in early October.

The image below provides an artist's impression of the new warehouse.



TGW Logistics Group has been selected as the partner who will work with us to install the new automated distribution systems. They will provide solutions for more efficient stock picking, details of which will be provided in future newsletters.

The warehouse will be built by Winvic, who have also worked on construction projects for Amazon, M&S and Waitrose.

We have enlisted the support of KAM Project Consultants manage the fit out of offices, meeting rooms and operational equipment.

Change Partners

Each of the publishing divisions has nominated a 'change partner' who will help support the delivery of the project.

The change partners will act as the main liaison point between their division and the project team. Their role involves communicating relevant information and representing the key queries and concerns of their colleagues.

They will also facilitate the key decisions on publishing process changes that may need to be made and will reach agreement on common approaches between divisions where necessary.

The change partners for each division are:

Hachette Children's – *Rasha Elsaeed & Charmian Allwright*

H&S, Headline, Quercus – *Peter McNulty*

Hodder Education – *Alex Jones*

Little, Brown – *Helen Gibbs*

Octopus – *Karen Mole*

Orion – *Fiona McIntosh*

The team will meet on a monthly basis, led by Alan Rakes from Hachette UK Distribution.

Representatives from IT and the royalties system project (Project Eve) will also attend to discuss process changes.

Latest FAQs

Who else have TGW worked with?

TGW are a global company who have provided distribution solutions for a number of major businesses including Asda, M&S, Weetabix and Bentley.

Can we handle future growth?

The warehouse has been designed to absorb significant growth when required, including further publisher acquisitions and additional third party clients.

Meet the Project Team

A number of 'Business Process Owners' have joined the team to manage the design and roll-out of new business practices.

Peter Asbury

Business Process Owner
(Publisher Finance)



Peter joined Hachette five years ago. He was originally part of the SAP implementation team and more recently was the Finance Systems Manager for Group Finance.

Debbie Smith

Business Process Owner (Publishing)



Debbie worked at Hodder Education as Senior Production Manager for 18 years. Her project role includes the design of processes between the new distribution systems and other IT systems including Biblio3.

Matt Griffin

Business Process Owner (Order to Cash)



Before the project, Matt had been with Little, Brown for 15 years, working as Trade Operations Manager. A key element of his project role will focus on the publisher interaction with new systems.

Coming Next

The next issues will give more detail on the IT elements of the project, including updates on the design workshops that are taking place for the new systems.

'Drop in' services will start later in the year at Bookpoint and LBS to give staff an opportunity to ask any questions about the project.