

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/2004

20 March 2018

Pending Applications

Development Planning
City of Westminster
PO Box 732
Redhill, RH1 9FL

By e-mail: southplanningteam@westminster.gov.uk

F.A.O: Nikki Mitchell

Application: 18/01468/FUL & 18/01469/L

Site: Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Avenue, London, WC2N 5DE

Proposal: Replacement of existing exterior lighting fittings and lamps. Installation of new LED illumination to exterior poster frames.

Remit:

The Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We were established through the Theatres Trust Act 1976 'to promote the better protection of theatres' and provide statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in England through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015, requiring the Trust to be consulted by local authorities on planning applications which include 'development involving any land on which there is a theatre'.

Comment:

The Trust **supports** this proposal for replacement exterior lighting and fittings, and new LED lighting to exterior poster frames without current lighting.

In terms of the replacement of existing lighting and fittings, we believe the proposal will reduce costs to the theatre and improve its environmental sustainability without detracting from the theatres appearance and heritage value. The Westminster City Plan (2016) highlights the area's high greenhouse gas emissions arising from the cumulative impact of energy use, in particular electricity, with Policy S28 seeking the reduction of energy use. Paragraph 95 of the National Planning Policy Framework requires local authorities to actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings.

We consider the additional lighting to currently unlit external posters will further increase the prominence and visibility of the theatre, thus maximising the theatre's income and viability through capturing increased passing trade.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

T 020 7836 8591

F 020 7836 3302

E info@theatrestrust.org.uk

W theatrestrust.org.uk

Chair Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

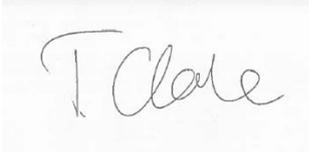
Trustees Richard Baldwin, David Blyth, Pam Bone, Paul Cartwright, Paddy Dillon, Ruth Eastwood, David Ian, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Dara Ó Briain, Simon Ricketts, Peter Roberts, Ann Skippers, Anna Stapleton

The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund co-operates with Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697

We therefore **recommend the approval of this application and the granting of listed building consent.**

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'T' and a clear 'Clarke'.

Tom Clarke
National Planning Adviser