

Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/3525

01 June 2018

Ms Tessa Outram
Brentwood Borough Council,
Town Hall,
Ingrave Road,
Brentwood,
Essex,
CM15 8AY

By e-mail: planning@brentwood.gov.uk

Applications: 18/00657/FUL & 18/00658/LBC

Site: Brentwood Theatre Shenfield Road Brentwood Essex CM15 8AG,

Proposal: Two storey front and part two storey part first floor side extension with new entrance and fire escape, to provide additional foyer and bar areas, kitchen, stores and offices, lighting and sound gallery with extended technical gallery.

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:

Thank you for consulting the Theatres Trust on the above applications.

The Trust actively encourages theatre owners and operators to invest in their buildings to ensure they meet current building and safety standards and the expectations of audiences, staff, and performers. Supporting social and cultural wellbeing is one of the core planning principles within the NPPF. We therefore **support** this proposal which will result in an expansion of the theatre's floorspace to deliver larger foyer and bar areas, increased facilities such as toilets, office and storage, improved wheelchair accessibility and enhanced backstage and technical areas.

We have reviewed the proposed plans and consider the design and layout to be appropriate, for example providing a sufficient number and ratio of toilets for the theatre's capacity. We also concur with the accompanying Heritage Statement that the proposed works to the theatre would

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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

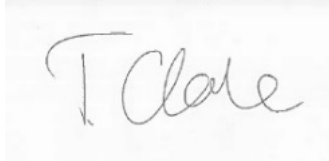
The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

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

not detract from the character or setting of the neighbouring Grade II listed Hermitage ('The Hermit').

In conclusion we **recommend the granting of planning permission and listed building consent.**

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'T Clarke', on a light-colored rectangular background.

Tom Clarke
National Planning Adviser