

# Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/661

25 June 2018

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## **Application:**

WP/18/00403/OUT

**Site:** LAND KNOWN AS WEYMOUTH PENINSULA, THE ESPLANADE, WEYMOUTH

## **Proposals:**

Demolition of existing buildings (excluding Pavilion Theatre and Jurassic Skyline viewing tower) and redevelopment for a mix of leisure and commercial uses including hotels, mixed use pub/diner with guest accommodation, restaurants and cafes, indoor leisure buildings, public car parking, commercial fishing and mixed-use harbour buildings and harbour operation and storage areas together with associated landscaping, street furniture, structures, op (Outline).

## **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 application for a mixed use redevelopment at Weymouth Peninsula. We have been consulted because the site area includes the Pavilion Theatre, a facility which is valued by local people as demonstrated by its designation as an Asset of Community Value.

The Trust **supports** this proposal, which would appear to benefit the theatre by enhancing the attractiveness of its surroundings and improving pedestrian access to and through the site. Through expansion of Weymouth's leisure offer and efforts to make it more of a year-round attraction, this should also help enhance the theatre's viability by expanding its potential market. In turn, the theatre can also continue to help draw people to the town which will help support the

## **Theatres Trust**

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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

new uses on the Peninsula.

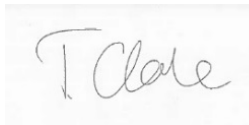
It appears from the indicative plans that suitable access has been maintained for the theatre's servicing requirements (get-in and get-out) along with car parking. We would though encourage the Council to engage with us at an early stage regarding the theatre should amendments be considered and as proposals are further developed.

We appreciate at this stage it is an outline application, nonetheless we would encourage the Council as the applicant to agree demolition and construction strategies with the theatre operator (and ourselves) and for these to be conditioned as part of any permission. This is to ensure performances at the Pavilion are not unduly impacted by noise from works in close proximity to it.

Similarly, we would seek appropriate soundproofing of the hotel adjacent to the theatre in order to mitigate the risk of future noise complaints in line with the Agent of Change principle set out in paragraph 180 of the draft revised National Planning Policy Framework. Any restrictions placed on the theatre, including deliveries and servicing, could detrimentally harm its viability.

In conclusion **we would support the granting of outline planning permission** and look forward to continuing engagement with the Council as plans develop.

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