Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/9006161

11 July 2018

Liz Beighton
Development Management
Suffolk Coastal District Council
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By e-mail: d.c.admin@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Applications: DC/18/2468/FUL

Site: Trimley St Mary Church High Road Trimley St Mary Suffolk IP11 0SP

Proposal: To apply for change of use to allow a theatre group to lease the building as a performance venue. No material changes externally or internally are proposed.

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 which would result in the change of use of St Marys Church to a performance venue.

The proposal would contribute towards Objective 15 – Physical and Community Infrastructure of the Suffolk Coastal District Local Plan (2013). We also consider it to accord with Development Management Policy DM30 – Key Facilities because the proposed use is reversible and compatible with the building's existing function. It is itself an alternative form of community facility which will provide opportunities for local people to come together and enhance social and cultural well-being. Paragraph 28 of the NPPF promotes the development of local services and community facilities in villages and paragraph 70 encourages decisions to plan positively for the provision and use of community facilities including cultural buildings.

Therefore, we consider this proposal to be policy compliant. We support it and recommend the

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H OQL

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

granting of planning permission.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance.

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser