Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/117

07 August 2018

Stephen Bate
Development Control
Communities and Place
Derby City Council
The Council House
Corporation Street
Derby
DE1 2FS

By e-mail: developmentcontrol@derby.gov.uk

Application: 07/18/01065

Site: 9 Babington Lane, Derby

Proposal: Change of use from restaurant (use class A3) to an indoor golf centre with associated bar and restaurant facilities (use classes D2, A4 and A3)

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 was not directly notified by the Council of this application. Although the Grand has not operated as a theatre for some considerable time, as a theatre building it falls within our remit as a statutory consultee as outlined above. Please ensure that your systems are updated so that for any future applications relating to theatres and theatre buildings within Derby the Trust is contacted for comment and the Council is in compliance with its statutory responsibilities. We also recommend that the Council engages the Trust during any relevant pre-application discussions, or where applications are received relating to new theatres or neighbouring developments that may impact on theatres.

The Trust has no concerns regarding this proposal. As noted already, the Grand has not been in theatre use since 1950, and subsequent to that was a bingo hall before being converted to a restaurant around ten years ago. We consider indoor golf to be a compatible use for theatre buildings and there are other examples of this such as the former Windmill Theatre in Great

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

Yarmouth. We also welcome that the building will be in active use with original features maintained.

In conclusion, we **support** this change of use and **recommend the granting of planning permission**.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or if you would like to discuss these comments further.

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser