

Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/796

09 October 2018

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City Offices
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Winchester
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By e-mail: planning@winchester.gov.uk

Applications: 18/01698/FUL & 18/01699/LIS

Site: Theatre Royal Winchester 21 - 23 Jewry Street Winchester Hampshire SO23 8SB

Proposal: New fenestration, entrance doors and canopy to the existing Jewry Street entrance, Amendments to the fenestration of the South elevation at ground floor level and new signage (SEE 18/01699/LIS);

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 consulted on this application as per our statutory remit. Please ensure the Council's systems are updated to ensure we are notified on any future applications relating to Theatre Royal or any other theatre building within Winchester.

The Trust welcomes this proposal which will help support the ongoing viability and attractiveness of the Theatre Royal as a cultural asset for Winchester, making it more of a destination outside of performance times. The proposed internal alterations also afford the theatre greater flexibility to expand its cultural offer through the provision of a small and flexible performance space, and maximise its income through potential utilisation for meetings and other such functions. Paragraph 92 of the NPPF (2018) encourages planning decisions to plan positively for community facilities such as cultural buildings, and to support the social and cultural well-being of the community.

We would concur with the applicant's supporting statements that the proposals do not

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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

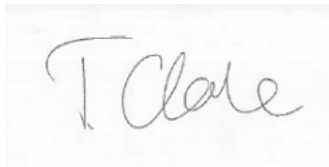
detrimentally impact the character and appearance of the theatre as a Grade II listed heritage asset. A number of the proposed works relate to parts of the theatre that were re-modelled in 1997, or that have already been altered either with the conversion of the building from a hotel to a theatre or at a subsequent time. On balance, the benefits of the proposal in terms of improving the sustainability and viability of the theatre and encouraging more people into the building outweigh the minimal harm caused by these works.

We also have no objections to the new proposed signage. Theatre signage and advertisements are an integral element of theatre character and design, and we also support efforts to increase the prominence and visibility of theatres.

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

Please contact us should you wish to discuss this representation further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'T Clarke', is shown on a light-colored rectangular background.

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser