

Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/

22 March 2019

Development Management
London Borough of Redbridge
Town Hall,
128-142 High Road,
Ilford,
IG1 1DD

By e-mail: planning.consultations@redbridge.gov.uk

Applications: 0540/19

Site: St Aubyns School, Bunces Lane, Woodford Green, IG8 9DU

Proposal: Two storey front extension to performing arts centre.

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. We consider the Performing Arts Centre at St Aubyn's School can fall within our remit because it is open to some degree of public use.

This proposal seeks to extend the arts centre's foyer area because at present there is insufficient space in comparison to the capacity of the main hall. At first floor level the new floorspace created will facilitate an additional performance space for teaching and rehearsals. The existing spiral staircase which links the two levels will be replaced by a solid straight staircase with cloakroom underneath.

We are supportive of efforts to expand and improve facilities at the Performance Arts Centre. We would note however that it would seem to be the case from the plans that there is no lift access to the first floor therefore the new performance space is not fully accessible. We would encourage the applicant to review options to provide such access, or for the design and access statement to be reviewed and amended to outline that satisfactory provision is available elsewhere within their site.

Theatres Trust

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Chair Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

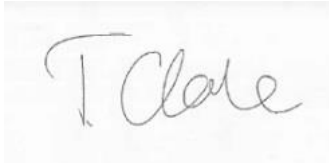
Trustees Richard Baldwin, David Blyth, Pam Bone, Paul Cartwright, Paddy Dillon, Ruth Eastwood, David Ian, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Dara Ó Briain, Simon Ricketts, Peter Roberts, Ann Skippers, Anna Stapleton

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

Subject to the above, **we recommend the granting of planning permission.**

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or if you wish to discuss this representation in greater detail.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "T Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "T" and "C".

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser