

# Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/932

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**Application:** Y19/0665/FH

**Site:** The Leas Club The Leas Folkestone Kent CT20 2DP

**Proposal:** Listed Building Consent for the removal of the existing canopy to frontage.

## 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:

This application for listed building consent has come to the attention of the Trust as the Leas Club, having initially been built as an Edwardian tearoom used for concerts and film screenings, was a dedicated theatre between 1928 and 1985. Subsequent to that it was used as a music venue, pub and snooker club. The site is also known as Leas Pavilion, and was awarded Grade II listed status in 2007 following its closure.

This proposal would result in the removal of a canopy to the front of the building. We note the deteriorating condition of the building and that a repairs notice is in place, for which the applicant claims removal is necessary to facilitate future restoration. The canopy is not original having been installed in the early 1980s (the site's planning history shows it being permitted through application reference SH/81/69 in 1981) and Historic England's listing description states it has no special interest.

## Theatres Trust

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**Chair** Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

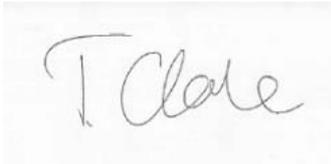
**Trustees** Richard Baldwin, David Blyth, Pam Bone, Paul Cartwright, Paddy Dillon, Ruth Eastwood, David Ian, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Dara Ó Briain, Simon Ricketts, Ann Skippers, Anna Stapleton

The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund co-operates with the Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697

Therefore we have no objection to this proposal and recommend the granting of listed building consent.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Trust should you wish to discuss this representation in greater detail.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'T' and a clear 'Clarke'.

Tom Clarke MRTPI  
National Planning Adviser