

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/92

10 July 2019

Leanne Nicholas
Planning Services
Tendring District Council
Town Hall
Station Road
Clacton-on-Sea
Essex, CO15 1SE

By e-mail: planning.services@tendringdc.gov.uk

Application: 19/00858/FUL

Site: West Cliff Theatre Tower Road Clacton On Sea Essex CO15 1LE

Proposal: Installation of 4 air cooled condensing units serving air conditioning units to be installed in the theatre auditorium.

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 Theatres Trust regarding this application, which seeks to install four air conditioning to serve the auditorium.

We are supportive of efforts by theatre owners and operators to improve their facilities and meet the needs and expectations of their audiences. As such, improving audience comfort would meet this objective. We note that the units would not have an impact upon the setting of the neighbouring Grade II* listed St James' Church.

Policy HP2 of the Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft supports the improvement of existing community facilities, which includes cultural facilities such as theatres as articulated in paragraph 4.2.1. Paragraph 92 of the NPPF (2019) also seeks decisions to plan positively for cultural buildings.

Therefore, we **recommend the granting of planning permission.**

Theatres Trust

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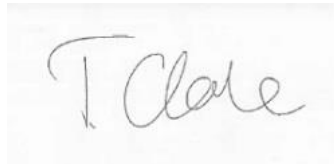
Chair Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

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

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss these comments 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 'C'.

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser