

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/911

28 April 2021

Miss Joanna Hughes
Monmouthshire County Council
County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

By e-mail: planning@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Application: DM/2021/00626

Site: Abergavenny Borough Theatre Cross Street Abergavenny NP7 5HD

Proposal: Non material amendments in relation to planning consent DM/2018/00466.

Remit:

The Theatres Trust is the National Advisory Body for Theatres and was established by The Theatres Trust Act 1976 'to promote the better protection of theatres'. The Trust is a statutory consultee in the planning system and local planning authorities in Wales are required to consult the Trust on planning applications for '*development involving any land on which there is a theatre*', '*residential development within 50 metres of a theatre*' as well as for proposed theatres. The definition of theatres within the Act defines a theatre as 'any building or part of a building constructed wholly or mainly for the public performance of plays', and therefore applies to theatres, playhouses, arts centres, ciné-varieties or buildings converted for theatre use, old and new, in other uses or disused.

Comment:

This application seeks non material amendments to a previously consented scheme which sought alterations including installation of wheelchair access to the theatre, specifically to move the location of air handling units to the rear of the auditorium and for a new roof cowl and ventilation ducts to be installed.

These works were also covered within a recent variation to condition 2 of listed building consent DM/2019/01578 for which we have already expressed support. They will improve operational effectiveness by reducing challenges associated with maintenance and will be more effective in bringing fresh air into the auditorium.

As previously stated we do not consider the addition of the roof cowl will harm the appearance and setting of the building as a heritage asset and there are clear and pressing benefits associated with the air handling arrangements proposed.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

T 020 7836 8591 **E** info@theatrestrust.org.uk **W** theatrestrust.org.uk

Chair Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

Trustees Richard Baldwin, Paul Cartwright, Paddy Dillon, Annie Hampson, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Jane Spiers, Truda Spruyt, Katie Town

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

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for **everyone**



Therefore we are similarly supportive of the granting of planning permission for these non-material amendments.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "T Clarke" in a cursive, slightly slanted script.

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser

Theatres Trust

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