

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/2318

09 September 2021

Stacey Wotherspoon
Planning
Economy, Planning and Employability Services
Kingdom House
Kingdom Avenue
Glenrothes
KY7 5LY

By e-mail: development.central@fife.gov.uk

Application: 21/02685/LBC

Site: The Alhambra Theatre 33 Canmore Street Dunfermline Fife KY12 7NX

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for the erection of 2 canopies

Remit:

The Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We were established through the Theatres Trust Act 1978 'to promote the better protection of theatres' and provide statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in Scotland through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulation 2013, 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 because it is seeking alterations to the Alhambra Theatre.

The Alhambra is a Category B heritage asset considered of significance primarily on account of its internal decoration and stage house containing a scene-painting loft which is unusual for a theatre of its age. It served as a bingo hall for just over forty years from the mid-1960s before falling vacant in 2006. It was purchased and returned to theatre use from 2008. It is an important arts and cultural venue for Dunfermline and the nature of its programme means it draws in visitors from a wider catchment to the benefit of the town centre and other businesses.

The theatre has an existing canopy above its main entrance to the Canmore Street elevation. This proposal seeks to replicate and extend the canopy to the adjoining buildings either side which are within the theatre's ownership. This will help better integrate these buildings into the theatre and provide additional shelter for audiences when queuing in inclement conditions. Canmore House will also be repainted.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL
T 020 7836 8591 E info@theatrestrust.org.uk W theatrestrust.org.uk

Interim Chair Paddy Dillon Director Jon Morgan

Trustees Richard Baldwin, Paul Cartwright, 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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It is the theatre's internal decoration which is most sensitive; of the areas to which the canopies will be installed one has already been altered with modern fascias and signage and the other is of different style. Therefore we raise no objection to the granting of listed building consent.

Please contact us 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, slightly slanted style.

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser

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