

# Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/2264

15 December 2021

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**Applications:** 21/01472/LB

**Site:** Grand Theatre, St Leonards Gate, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 1NL

**Proposals:** Listed building consent for repair of render, replacement of gutters, replacement of windows, and redecoration of facade to the front elevation

## **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 because it is seeking to carry out works to the Grand Theatre, specifically repairs and redecoration of the theatre's front facade. It follows an earlier listed building consent for removal of render which was supported by the Trust in March 2021. Those works revealed need for further repairs and replacements, supported by photographic evidence within the Heritage Statement and appraisal reports from specialist contractors.

The need for these works has been well documented; as a statutory listed heritage asset there is clear public benefit in ensuring this important building is safeguarded and maintained.

A new paint scheme with high level hand-painted lettering is also put forward. We are also supportive of these plans, which would update the theatre's appearance in a fashion which is appropriate for a historic building within a conservation area whilst also being of contemporary

## **Theatres Trust**

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL  
T 020 7836 8591 E [info@theatrestrust.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrestrust.org.uk) W [theatrestrust.org.uk](http://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

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style which will help broaden the appeal of the theatre to a wider audience. This would be supported by the insertion of sensitive up-lighting with the existing projecting signage removed.

Therefore we are supportive of the granting of listed building consent.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or if you would like to discuss these comments further.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "T Clarke".

Tom Clarke MRTPI  
National Planning Adviser

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