Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Ref.: TC

17 March 2023

Ms Sabah Halli SDNPA South Downs Centre North Street Midhurst West Sussex GU29 9DH

By e-mail: Sabah.Halli@easthants.gov.uk

Application: SDNP/22/02351/FUL

Site: Petersfield Town Council Festival Hall 24 Heath Road Petersfield Hampshire GU31 4EA

Proposal: The renovation (including partial demolition) and extension of Petersfield Festival Hall and Town Hall building.

Remit:

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 re-consulting Theatres Trust on this application following submission of amended plans. This consists of reduction in the height of the air source heat pump enclosure and louvre screen around the south-east elevation at roof level by 585 and 550mm respectively for which we have no objections as we do not consider the change to materially alter the design or function of the building.

We also note the additional comments submitted by the applicant responding to points raised by a number of parties including ourselves. This is helpful in further explaining aspects of the proposal which may not have been clear and addresses many of our queries. Nonetheless we would reiterate that whilst we are a statutory consultee the points raised on internal layouts and function are intended to advise and assist the applicant and are not material to the determination of the application.

The applicant's response also indicates that the Council's Conservation Officer is not supportive

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H OQL

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

of the application. They would be welcome to engage with us should they require objective specialist advice on this building in our capacity as the national advisory public body for theatres.

We remain supportive of the granting of planning permission.

Please contact us should you wish to discuss these comments in further detail.

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser