

Protecting theatres
for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/1839

23 August 2023

Mrs Jan Cresswell
Development Management Section
PO Box 17
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Blackpool
FY1 1LZ

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

Application: 23/0600

Site: THE GRAND THEATRE, 33 CHURCH STREET, BLACKPOOL, FY1 1HT

Proposal: Replacement of the pitched slate roof to the offices with new welsh slate inclusive of breathable membrane and treated timber battens, skylight replacement, lead valley gutter replacement and lead work to the existing studio skylight glazing bars, reinstatement of the pineapple finial leaves and copper scrolls to the dome and fitment of new steel pins insertion to rebuild the front pediment. Repointing of the chimneys and the north and west elevations to include mortar repairs to isolated areas of stonework, redecorate the existing timber windows and the decorative rendering, replace existing rainwater goods with cast iron painted black, following removal of redundant air con units, drain pipes, rotted timber, failing mortar, front pediment and descale of the corner facade and associated ancillary works as required.

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

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

Telephone 020 7836 8591 **Email** info@theatrestrust.org.uk **Website** theatrestrust.org.uk **Twitter** @TheatresTrust

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Director Jon Morgan

Trustees Paul Cartwright, James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Lucy Osborne, 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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planning applications which include 'development involving any land on which there is a theatre'.

Comment:

Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust on this application for listed building consent at the Grand Theatre. It seeks to undertake replacements and repair works to the building's roof and guttering, repointing and external redecoration.

The Grand Theatre is a Grade II* listed heritage asset within the Town Centre Conservation Area. It is considered one of the finest works of renowned theatre architect Frank Matcham. It is an important and valued cultural venue for Blackpool, hosting a busy programme which both meets the needs of local people as well as contributing to Blackpool's visitor offer. Therefore efforts to support its ongoing conservation and operations are to be supported.

These works are entirely to address deficiencies with the building which if left unresolved would result in continued deterioration and compromise the building's significance as well as its ability to operate. This is particularly through water ingress arising from the poor condition of the significant leaded dome, skylights to the flat-roof area above the dressing rooms, slate tiles to the studio roof, damaged masonry around the chimney stack around the offices, and gutters and rainwater goods having accumulations of debris and vegetation. There is also some structural damage to the parapet to the corner entrance, a need for repointing and for repair or replacement of some windows. A survey has been provided with photographic evidence which outlines the condition of various parts of the building and how repair will be addressed.

Given the clear necessity for repairs to be carried, and that they will be undertaken on a like-for-like basis, we are supportive of the granting of listed building consent.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss this representation in greater detail.

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

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