

Protecting theatres
for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/3890

24 August 2023

Ms D Sheath
Public Service Plaza
Civic Centre Road
Havant
Hampshire
PO9 2AX

By e-mail: planning.department@havant.gov.uk

Application: APP/23/00552

Site: Station Theatre, Station Road, Hayling Island, PO11 0EH

Proposal: Installation of a 5.9 x 2.35 m container to store props and set building material.

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 consulting Theatres Trust on this application for planning permission at Station Theatre. It seeks to install an external container for the storage of props and stage equipment.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

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

Facebook @theatres.trust **Instagram** @TheatresTrust

Chair Dave Moutrey OBE

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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The container would be sited to the rear corner of the theatre along its eastern elevation adjacent to its stage door. The applicant's covering letter alludes to a lack of storage space within the existing building, with a need to clear areas of obstruction for fire safety purposes.

It is important that the theatre is able to function effectively. It is not clear whether there is a longer-term ambition or ability for the theatre to further expand its footprint, but this installation will meet its needs in a cost-effective manner in the meantime.

The surrounding context of the theatre is industrial in character with the outlook from residential properties the opposite side of Furniss Way towards the theatre shielded by trees and vegetation. Therefore we consider there to be minimal impact on setting and visual amenity. Nonetheless, if mitigation is deemed necessary the applicant has put forward the possibility of additional screening.

On that basis we are supportive of the granting of planning permission.

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

Theatres Trust

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