Theatres fit for the **future**



Ref.: TC/242

25 March 2024

Castle House Great North Road Newark Notts NG24 1BY

By e-mail: planning@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk

Application: 23/02073/LBC

Site: Palace Theatre 16 - 18 Appleton Gate Newark On Trent NG24 1JY

Proposal: Application for draft Local Development Order to enable and control

filming at the Palace Theatre and National Civil War Centre.

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:

This proposal for a Local Development Order (LDO) has come to the attention of Theatres Trust because it concerns the enabling and control of filming at the Palace Theatre. This theatre is a Grade II listed heritage asset within the Newark Conservation Area and is an important cultural venue for the town.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

Chair Dave Moutrey OBE Director Jon Morgan

Trustees James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Lucy Osborne, Truda Spruyt, Katie Town

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The historic character of the theatre's auditorium, its appearance reminiscent of early music halls, makes it an attractive venue for filming. Such activities – particularly for notable productions – can positively benefit specific venues and the wider area in which they sit on a longer-term basis as they attract future visitors. They can also have positive short-term economic benefits arising from the use of local services by casts, crews and other supporting personnel. The income generated for venues can help sustain their core activities and cultural offers. However, as set out within the LDO's Statement of Reasons acquiring the requisite consents can cause delays and costs which make proposals unviable or result in business being lost elsewhere.

The proposed Permitted Development and conditions appear to be appropriate in facilitating the objectives, and make clear such uses are temporary thereby protecting the theatre's use class and core purpose.

We therefore support adoption of the proposed Local Development Order.

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