

# Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/234

23 December 2021

Mr J Beattie  
County Hall  
Mold  
Flintshire  
CH7 6NF

By e-mail: [planning.consultation@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:planning.consultation@flintshire.gov.uk)

**Application:** 063709 & 063710

**Site:** Theatre Clwyd Raikes Lane, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 1YA

**Proposal:** Erection of a temporary performance village adjacent to a listed building; and

Listed Building Application for the erection of a temporary performance village adjacent to a listed building

## **Remit:**

The Theatres Trust is the National Advisory Body for Theatres and was established by The Theatres Trust Act 1976 'to promote the better protection of theatres'. The Trust is a statutory consultee in the planning system and local planning authorities in Wales are required to consult the Trust on planning applications for '*development involving any land on which there is a theatre*', '*residential development within 50 metres of a theatre*' as well as for proposed theatres. The definition of theatres within the Act defines a theatre as 'any building or part of a building constructed wholly or mainly for the public performance of plays', and therefore applies to theatres, playhouses, arts centres, ciné-varieties or buildings converted for theatre use, old and new, in other uses or disused.

## **Comment:**

Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust regarding these applications for planning permission and listed building consent at Theatr Clywd. They seek the installation of a temporary performance venue with associated ancillary structures.

Theatr Clywd is shortly to undergo a major refurbishment project necessitating closure of most of the main building to the public. The Trust has previously submitted comments in support of those plans. This 'performance village' will enable the theatre to continue to run a theatrical programme whilst works are taking place. This is important, as its function as a community cultural facility will be maintained and it will minimise the risk of losing audiences.

## **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

The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund co-operates with the Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697

## Protecting theatres for **everyone**



A similar approach was taken by the Mercury Theatre in Colchester during their recent refurbishment and extension project, and the Chichester Festival Theatre and Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon are examples of statutorily listed theatres that have installed outdoor performance areas during summer months. Whilst this proposal will cause harm to the setting of the theatre, this is mitigated by the public benefits of maintaining provision and that it is temporary for a specific purpose and will be removed upon completion of works.

Therefore we are supportive of the granting of planning permission and listed building consent.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered within a light grey rectangular box.

Tom Clarke MRTPI  
National Planning Adviser

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