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Ref.: TC/1383

03 August 2022

Teignbridge District Council Forde House Brunel Road Newton Abbot Devon TQ12 4XX

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

Application: 22/01130/LBC

Site: 17-19 Market Walk Newton Abbot Devon TQ12 2RX

Proposal: Demolition of existing buildings, erection of four screen cinema building on upper levels with two Class E(a, b) units on the ground floor, associated ancillary accommodation and external works

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 application for listed building consent has come to her attention of the Trust because it is seeking demolition of existing buildings and construction of a new cinema which are adjacent to, and will impact the setting of, the Alexandra.

Much of our comment on this scheme relates to the corresponding planning application, to which we have responded under separate cover. It appears that listed building consent covers the demolition of parts of the Market Hall behind the Alexandra.

The demolition of structures linked to the Market Hall will facilitate pedestrian access between Market Walk and the Alexandra. We are supportive of this because as a later addition it is of less significance and we consider that enhanced connectivity and footfall will be of benefit to the Alexandra should it remain in community/cultural use and reinstate historic layout.

Therefore we raise no objection to the granting of listed building consent for demolition, although

Theatres Trust

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as set out in our comments for application 22/01129/MAJ we have significant concerns about the impact of this proposal on the character and setting of the Alexandra as a neighbouring designated heritage asset.

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

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

Trustees Paul Cartwright, James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Lucy Osborne, Jane Spiers, Truda Spruyt, Katie Town