

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC

03 November 2022

Isabel Howdon-Bancroft
Development Control
Communities and Place
Derby City Council
The Council House
Corporation Street
Derby
DE1 2FS

By e-mail: developmentcontrol@derby.gov.uk

Application: 22/01606/FUL

Site: Market Place Derby

Proposal: Erection of ice rink (Use Class F2d) and theatre (Sui Generis use) marquees to operate for a temporary period (46 Days In Any 12 Month Period)

Remit:

The 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 has come to the attention of the Trust because it is proposing temporary theatre use across a maximum of forty-six days within a twelve month period, lasting for ten years.

The Trust is supportive of this proposal, which would provide much-needed theatre provision within Derby at least on a temporary basis. The city has been without large-scale theatre provision for some time, compounded by the ongoing closure of the Guildhall. This will go at least some way towards expanding local provision, with the application form suggesting this will be focussed on the Christmas period we assume to facilitate pantomime. We had suggested temporary provision of theatre in our comments on demolition of the Assembly Rooms based on the successful experience of Colchester's Mercury and longer-term venues operated by Troubadour in London.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL
T 020 7836 8591 E info@theatrestrust.org.uk W theatrestrust.org.uk

Chair Dave Moutrey **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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Some basic plans have been provided, these suggest that level access would be possible to ensure this provision is accessible.

In conclusion we support the granting of planning permission, and we remain keen to engage with the Council regarding longer-term theatre provision in Derby.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser

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