

Protecting theatres  
for **everyone**



Ref.: TC/2009

7 November 2023

Luke Walstow  
Bassetlaw District Council  
Queen's Buildings  
Potter Street  
Worksop  
S80 2AH

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

**Application:** 23/01328/FUL

**Site:** Acorn Community Theatre Ltd Queen Street Worksop Nottinghamshire S80 2AN

**Proposal:** Erect Detached Storage Shed for Theatre Props

**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 has come to the attention of Theatres Trust because it is seeking to construct an external storage shed at the Acorn Community Theatre.

The Acorn Community Theatre is owned and operated by a local social enterprise

**Theatres Trust**

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

**Telephone** 020 7836 8591 **Email** [info@theatrestrust.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrestrust.org.uk) **Website** [theatrestrust.org.uk](http://theatrestrust.org.uk) **Twitter** @TheatresTrust

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**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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and is a registered charity. It is largely run by volunteers. It has a 200-seat auditorium and its programme consists of a mixture of productions by local amateur groups along with some smaller-scale professional touring shows. Venues such as this are particularly important for the social and cultural well-being of local people, providing opportunities for participation and engagement in theatre and the arts. They help bring people together and allow for the development of new skills. Paragraph 93 of the NPPF (2023) seeks planning decisions to plan positively for facilities of this nature.

The proposed location for the shed is to the rear of the theatre. It will be utilised for the storage of props and scenery. The location and scale of the shed is such that it will largely be concealed from view and will therefore not impact on the wider setting of the conservation area in which the theatre sits. Whilst no specific rationale for the shed is set out, the theatre is of relatively small scale and additional space is likely to be beneficial. This represents a cost-effective option to address a need for additional space and functionality.

Therefore we support the granting of planning permission.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss these comments in further detail.

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

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