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Ref.: TC/2306

15 December 2023

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

Application: 23/05877/LBC

Site: Kings Theatre 2 Leven Street Tollcross Edinburgh EH3 9LQ

Proposal: Cladding change to render for bin store. Infilling of windows to south and east façade. New door and window to café and change to guardrails and relocation of foyer kiosks to heritage interpretation room

Remit:

Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We were established through the Theatres Trust Act 1978 'to promote the better protection of theatres' and provide statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in Scotland through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulation 2013, 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 the attention of Theatres Trust because it is seeking alterations to the major programme of development currently underway at King's Theatre. Specifically, it will see changes to the cladding around the bin store, the infilling of windows, a new door and window to the café,

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

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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

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changes to guardrails and relocation of historic kiosks to the venue's proposed heritage interpretation room. Some of these matters we have previously commented on at pre-application stage.

With regards to the alterations to cladding at the bin store, as stated within our pre-application comments we have no objection to this change. Whilst some indication of finish is shown within the proposed elevation drawing it is stated that the cladding will match the rendered finish on Tarvit Street although that diagram (north elevation) appears to show no such render. This should be clarified.

We similarly make no objection to the infilling of windows to the east and south elevations, which will utilise reclaimed brick and we assume will match existing brickwork as is the case with previous infills. We also assume this constitutes a reversible alteration.

The new window and door to the café appear not to be clearly shown on the proposed elevations, but the proposed ground floor plan states the new window will match the existing windows within the space and this approach we would support.

The change to the guardrails to the fly tower is supported.

The kiosks, which will be moved for their protection during works, will be relocated to the proposed heritage interpretation room. We have no objection to this in principle but as set out in our previous comments we suggest the applicant considers further whether heritage interpretation could be a more integral feature throughout the building rather than focussed on a specific area. We also urged submission of a method statement outlining how the kiosks will be reconstructed.

In conclusion we support the granting of listed building consent but for individual elements of these proposals we suggest further clarification as well as submission of a method statement for relocation of the kiosks.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Clarke".

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser

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