

Ref.: TC/879

13 February 2024

Sarah Flaherty  
Stratford-on-Avon District Council  
Elizabeth House  
Church Street  
Stratford-upon-Avon  
Warwickshire  
CV37 6HX

By e-mail: [planning.applications@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.applications@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

**Application:** 24/00146/FUL

**Site:** Swan Gardens (south Of Swan Theatre) Waterside Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6BB

**Proposal:** Change of use of land and construction of temporary outdoor theatre for performances July to September 2024

**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:**

Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust on this application for planning permission, which seeks to construct an outdoor theatre for a temporary period between July to September 2024 at Swan Gardens, just south-west of the Swan Theatre.

**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** James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Lucy Osborne, Truda Spruyt, Katie Town

There has been similar outdoor provision at this location previously, most recently in 2021. This proposal will complement the core permanent offer of the the Royal Shakespeare Company, expanding its cultural and social role and encouraging greater visitor numbers which benefits the wider local economy. It will also help the theatre to engage with new audiences and groups. With reference to paragraph 208 of the NPPF (2023) we consider that this constitutes a substantial public which mitigates the temporary harm to setting whilst the structures are in place. It must also be considered that by its nature the harm generated by this proposal is not permanent.

We can therefore support the granting of temporary planning permission.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss this representation in greater detail.



Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

**Theatres Trust**

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