

Ref.: TC/2330

3 October 2024

Freya Divey
Chichester District Council
East Pallant House
1 East Pallant
Chichester
PO19 1TY

By e-mail: dcplanning@chichester.gov.uk

Application: 24/02024/FUL

Site: Minerva Theatre Broyle Road Chichester West Sussex PO19 6AP

Proposal: Erection of a louvered roof canopy and deck with existing terrace area.

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 undertake development at the Minerva Theatre, specifically the addition of a canopy to provide cover and shelter at its external terrace area to the north-west of the building.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

Telephone 020 7836 8591 **Email** info@theatrestrust.org.uk **Website** theatrestrust.org.uk **Twitter** @TheatresTrust

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Chair Dave Moutrey OBE

Director Jon Morgan

Trustees Vicky Browning OBE, Anna Collins, James Dacre, Suba Das, Liam Evans-Ford, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Tracy Ann Oberman, Lucy Osborne, Saratha Rajeswaran, Truda Spruyt, Michèle Taylor MBE, Katie Town

The Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund supports the work of The Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697

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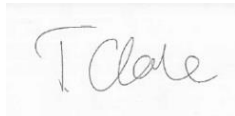
The Minerva Theatre is operated by the Chichester Festival Theatre which is on the adjacent site. The Minerva is a non-designated heritage asset on Chichester's register of locally important heritage assets. It is a studio theatre with an audience capacity of 310, supporting a diverse range of smaller productions and touring shows which complement those of the Festival Theatre. It contributes to Chichester's cultural offer, meeting the needs of local people as well as attracting visitors into the area. Paragraph 97 of the NPPF (2023) seeks planning decisions to plan positively for facilities such as this.

The purpose of this shelter is to enable the terrace to be utilised for events and dining. This will complement the theatre's offer, making it more attractive as a venue which will generate additional income to support its core theatre and cultural offer. It will also make the terrace more attractive to audiences and visitors.

We consider the design of the shelter to be sensitive to its setting.

We therefore support the granting of planning permission.

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



Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

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