

Ref.: TC

24 December 2024

Jane Sanger
Shropshire Council

Application: PL/2024/10775

Site: Ellis Theatre, Marlborough College, Bath Road, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 1PA

Proposal: Installation of solar PV system to roof

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 install PV panels to the roof of the Ellis Theatre.

The Ellis Theatre is part of Marlborough College but is available for external use. It has a capacity of 416 seats and is technically well-equipped, hosting some local and touring productions alongside performances linked to the school. Paragraph 98 of the NPPF (2024) seeks planning decisions to plan positively for facilities of this nature.

The installation of PV panels will help the theatre and wider college reduce its carbon emissions and lower the cost of its energy usage. This is supported and welcomed; several other theatres have brought forward such schemes recently. Paragraph 161

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

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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

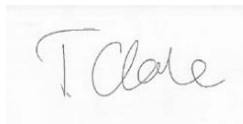
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of the NPPF supports transition to net zero by 2050 and within that objective supports renewable and low carbon energy.

We consider that the visual impact of these installations will be limited and their positioning will not impact the setting of nearby heritage assets. Nonetheless, with reference to paragraph 215 of the NPPF, we consider the public benefits of reducing emissions would in any case mitigate impact.

We are supportive of the granting of planning permission.

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



Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

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