



Theatres fit for the **future**

Theatres
Trust

Ref.: TC

22 December 2025

Mark Burgess
Planning Services
Place Directorate
Stopford House,
Piccadilly
Stockport
SK1 3XE

By e-mail: Planning.DC@stockport.gov.uk

Application: DC/096329

Site: Carver Theatre 1A Chadwick Street Marple Stockport SK6 7AX

Proposal: New roof over parts of existing roof, to include raising of height by 250mm. Installation of additional external lighting over signage. Installation of air conditioning vents to the North Western elevation.

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'.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

Telephone 020 7836 8591 **Email** info@theatretrust.org.uk **Website** theatretrust.org.uk

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Chair Dave Moutrey OBE **CEO** Joshua McTaggart

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

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Comment:

Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust on this application for planning permission at Carver Theatre. It is seeking to install a new roof over parts of the existing roof along with installation of external lighting and vents.

Carver Theatre was originally founded by the Marple Drama Society in 1906, later relocating into this current site which was the Thomas Carver Recreation Club/Carver Institute. The building could be considered a non-designated heritage asset. It was converted into a theatre, which currently has a capacity of around 178 seats. It is owned and operated by its members, primarily hosting productions by local groups. It is a valued cultural and community asset for Marple and its surrounding communities. Paragraph 98 of the NPPF (2024) seeks planning decisions to plan positively for facilities of this nature.

The venue has previously been in contact with Theatres Trust seeking advice on its lack of ventilation. Whilst details on the specifics of this proposal are limited, it is to be assumed from the inclusion of air conditioning vents that this is something now being addressed. This will help improve the comfort of audiences, performers and other volunteer staff and is supported. The vents are to be located at high level within the less sensitive later extension.

Similarly we support the roof works, again this will have little impact on setting or significance. We assume it will enhance insulation and efficiency and help ensure the continued operation and conservation of the building.

We also support installation of new lighting, which will help improve visibility and prominence of the theatre.

In conclusion, 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 Manager

Theatres Trust

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