

Protecting theatres for everyone



Ref.: TC/234

25 May 2021

Mr J Beattie
County Hall
Mold
Flintshire
CH7 6NF

By e-mail: planning.consultation@flintshire.gov.uk

Application: 062785 & 062786

Site: Theatre Clwyd Raikes Lane, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 1YA

Proposal: Extension and refurbishment of Theatr Clwyd, built in 1976 and listed in 2019. Internal alterations and refurbishment throughout; and

Listed Building Application for extension and refurbishment of Theatr Clwyd, built in 1976 and listed in 2019. Internal alterations and refurbishment throughout

Remit:

The Theatres Trust is the National Advisory Body for Theatres and was established by The Theatres Trust Act 1976 'to promote the better protection of theatres'. The Trust is a statutory consultee in the planning system and local planning authorities in Wales are required to consult the Trust on planning applications for '*development involving any land on which there is a theatre*', '*residential development within 50 metres of a theatre*' as well as for proposed theatres. The definition of theatres within the Act defines a theatre as 'any building or part of a building constructed wholly or mainly for the public performance of plays', and therefore applies to theatres, playhouses, arts centres, ciné-varieties or buildings converted for theatre use, old and new, in other uses or disused.

Comment:

Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust regarding these applications for planning permission and listed building consent at Theatr Clywd. Permission has already been granted for refurbishment of the theatre following the submission of an original application in 2019; the Trust provided detailed comments and was supportive of plans and investment for the theatre. These applications propose amendments to the consented scheme, primarily revision to external design, appearance and materials, some alteration to the building's footprint and inclusion of insulation and ventilation measures.

There has been significant revision to the foyer's external appearance and canopy, with widening to the east and alteration to the alignment and quantity of columns. This better reflects the

Theatres Trust

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Chair Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

Trustees Richard Baldwin, Paul Cartwright, Paddy Dillon, Annie Hampson, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Jane Spiers, Truda Spruyt, Katie Town

The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund co-operates with the Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697

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theatre's existing appearance and detailing. The columns and beams will now be steel rather than timber which should improve longevity and reduce maintenance costs. We are supportive of the revisions as they would seem to provide operational benefits whilst better corresponding with the building's existing appearance and character on its principle elevation.

Similarly, we are supportive of inclusion of increased insulation and air source heat pumps as this should help improve the building's efficiency and sustainability. Other alterations such as the inclusion of bin stores and entrance canopies to the get-in and catering doors are relatively minor in nature and will benefit the building operationally.

In conclusion we remain highly supportive of this project and welcome these revisions which further refine the consented scheme. We again recommend the granting of planning permission and listed building consent.

Please contact us should you wish to discuss these comments in greater detail.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Clarke MRTPI
National Planning Adviser

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