# Theatres fit for the **future**



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Steve Milligan
Planning Department
Riverside
4 Canning Road
Lowestoft
NR33 0EQ

By e-mail: planning@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Application: DC/24/2628/FUL

Site: Jubilee Hall Crabbe Street Aldeburgh Suffolk IP15 5BN

**Proposal:** The project comprises of external alterations to the front main entrance of

Aldeburgh Jubilee Hall.

### 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 external alteration at Jubilee Hall.

#### **Theatres Trust**

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

Chair Dave Moutrey OBE Director Jon Morgan
Trustees James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Lucy Osborne, Truda Spruyt, Katie Town

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Jubilee Hall was built in 1887 to celebrate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee, with the purpose of holding concerts and theatrical shows along with dances. It later became a major venue for the Aldeburgh Festival with performances by Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears prior to development of the concert hall at Snape Maltings in the late 1960s. The success of the festival resulted in improvements to Jubilee Hall including expansion of its back of house and development of an orchestra pit. The current programme consists of theatre productions by local and touring groups, live music and comedy along with exhibitions, markets and other external hires. It is an important cultural and community facility for the town. Paragraph 97 of the NPPF (2023) seeks planning decisions to plan positively for facilities of this nature.

Currently the main entrance to Jubilee Hall is within a recess and could be considered to be understated. It also lacks visibility. This proposal would extend the entrance outwards by way of a new canopy with illuminated signage, utilising steel and timber cladding. This will afford greater prominence.

We consider the design of the revised entrance to be sensitive to the building's character as a non-designated heritage asset, as well as to that of the wider conservation area.

We therefore support the granting of planning permission.

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

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser