Theatres fit for the **future**



Ref.: TC/3605

6 September 2024

Marianna Porter Planning Service, 8 North Ness Business Park Lerwick Shetland ZE1 0LZ

By e-mail: <u>development.management@shetland.gov.uk</u>

Application: 2024/204/LBC

Site: Garrison Theatre Market Street Lerwick Shetland ZE1 0JN

Proposal: Proposed maintenance works to include re-slating of main roof areas with like for like welsh slate and replacement of felt on small flat roof area; lead covering to east gable wall stone skews; replacement of cast iron gutters, hoppers and downpipes on the north, south and west elevations with aluminium rainwater products.

Remit:

Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We were established through the Theatres Trust Act 1978 'to promote the better protection of theatres' and provide statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in Scotland through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulation 2013, 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@theatrestrust.org.uk **Website** theatrestrust.org.uk **Twitter** @TheatresTrust **Facebook** @theatres.trust **Instagram** @TheatresTrust

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

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Comment:

This application for listed building consent has come to the attention of Theatres Trust because it is seeking to undertake roof repair works at the Garrison Theatre.

The Garrison Theatre is an important arts and cultural venue for the islands. It is run by a charitable trust and has a mixed programme of theatre, cinema, comedy, live music and other performances. Its auditorium has a capacity of 280. It first opened as a theatre in 1942 to serve wartime troops stationed nearby, but the building dates earlier to 1903. It is Category C listed.

Whilst not explicitly articulated, it is evident these works seek to repair and maintain the building. This is welcomed, as it is important the building and its operations are maintained. The roof is predominantly covered with Welsh slates and these will be replaced on a like-for-like basis, although for greater sustainability we would urge salvage and re-use where slates remain in good condition. There is a small area covered in felt membrane, this will also be replaced like-for-like.

There will be replacement of cast iron downpipes, gutters and hoppers with aluminium equivalents. It is to be assumed from the link provided that these will be of similar or identical colour.

On that basis, we would support the granting of listed building consent.

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser