

Ref.: TC/2843

11 December 2024

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Application: 24/04090/FUL

Site: 6-7 Arts Theatre St Edwards Passage Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB2 3PJ

Proposal: Replacement of part of the existing roof with a Dutch Mansard roof and creation of a dormer window to accommodate a new studio bar at third floor level at no. 3-4, St Edwards Passage

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 for planning permission has come to the attention of Theatres Trust

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

Telephone 020 7836 8591 **Email** info@theatrestrust.org.uk **Website** theatrestrust.org.uk **Twitter** @TheatresTrust

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Chair Dave Moutrey OBE

Director Jon Morgan

Trustees James Dacre, Suba Das, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson, Lucy Osborne, 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

because it is seeking to undertake alteration at the Arts Theatre in a variation to the consented scheme for wider refurbishment and extension. This is specifically focused on an area of the third floor of 3-4 St Edward's Passage to facilitate a new studio bar.

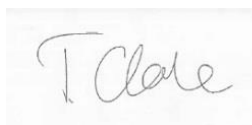
Previously this area of the building was to provide WCs, but will instead now provide a bar to directly serve the studio theatre. There were to be roof lights inserted above the existing pitched roof. Due to the pitch, as illustrated within the Heritage Statement, the space and layout for the bar would be sub-optimal. Therefore it is proposed to alter the roof to a Dutch mansard roof with single dormer window to provide natural light as well as an outlook towards the adjacent church.

As well as better enabling a bar in this location, the proposed alteration will help enhance the standard of this space for audiences and make the bar more conducive to use for private hires and events which could help generate additional income to support the theatre's core cultural offer. It also provides wider operational benefits because a dedicated bar will enable the studio to be operated independently of the main auditorium.

We support the design approach, particularly as a Dutch mansard style reflects the existing form of neighbouring buildings. As such, the impact of alteration is minimised.

We therefore 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 Adviser

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