

The Planning Inspectorate

COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

Please note that comments about this case need to be made within the timetable. This can be found in the notification letter sent by the local planning authority or the start date letter. Comments submitted after the deadline may be considered invalid and returned to sender.

Appeal Reference: APP/A1720/C/23/3336046

DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference	APP/A1720/C/23/3336046
Appeal By	TITCHFIELD FESTIVAL THEATRE LIMITED
Site Address	Titchfield Festival Theatre 71-73 St. Margarets Lane FAREHAM PO14 4BG

SENDER DETAILS

Name	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]
Company/Group/Organisation Name	[REDACTED]

ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

I support the appellant in appealing against the enforcement notice.

I am writing to you on behalf of the Titchfield Organ Society to express our grave concerns regarding the future of the Titchfield Festival Theatre (TFT). As you may be aware, TFT has been a vital cultural and community hub since its establishment at the current site in 2010, providing affordable entertainment and fostering local talent in Titchfield and its surrounding areas.

One of the most significant aspects of TFT's cultural heritage is the presence of the Forum Cinema organ, a historic instrument that holds immense importance in the history of entertainment. Installed in the Forum Cinema Southampton in 1934 to accompany silent films, this remarkable instrument served as a complete orchestra with sound effects, captivating audiences and lifting spirits during challenging times, including the Second World War.

The Titchfield Organ Society is deeply grateful to TFT for generously allowing us to install this historically significant organ in the Oak theatre. Its presence not only enriches the cultural landscape of our community but also serves as a testament to our shared heritage and the power of the arts to unite and inspire.

It is visited by organists from around the UK and we want to use it to inspire the organists of the future.

However, we are now faced with a looming threat to TFT's existence. Despite its invaluable contributions to the community, TFT has continually faced opposition from Fareham Borough Council (FBC), who have actively sought to close down the theatre. The consequences of such actions would be catastrophic, not only for TFT but also for the Titchfield Organ Society and the wider community.

If TFT were to close, it would not only jeopardize the entire TFT project but also potentially lead to the loss of this historic theatre altogether. The repercussions of such a closure would extend far beyond the immediate loss of a cultural institution, impacting the livelihoods of local artists, volunteers, and businesses, as well as depriving the community of a vital space for creativity, expression, and social connection.

Therefore, we urge you, as a planning inspector, to carefully consider the implications of any decisions regarding the future of TFT. We implore you to support the preservation and continued operation of TFT, ensuring that this invaluable asset remains accessible to current and future generations. Thank you for your attention to this matter. We trust that you will give due consideration to our concerns and take appropriate action to safeguard the future of the Titchfield Festival Theatre.

