

November 2024

Project Title Thespian House
Job no. 907
Client Catherine Jones

Green Infrastructure Statement

Site Address: Thespian House, Penydarren Road, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 0AJ

Proposed Development: Proposed refurbishment, revised floorplan, and rear cloister extension

Site description: Thespian house is a grade II listed extension to the Theatre. The property was built in the 1920's to house those performing at the theatre.

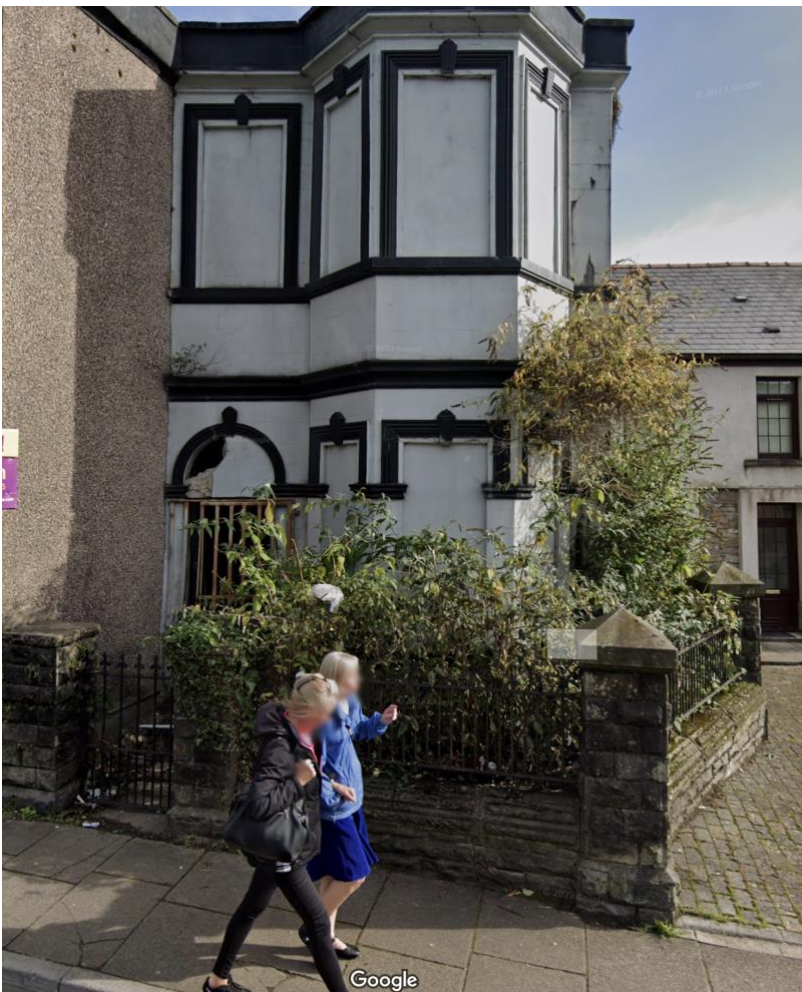
Surrounding area description: Merthyr Tydfil town centre



Existing front elevation

Details of all existing green infrastructure (trees, hedges and hedge banks) on site:

The existing building sits within and enclosed urban site forming part of the high street. Thespian House slightly set back, with a small forecourt to the front. The forecourt appears overgrown with ivy and other unidentified vegetation of a similar nature. See below:



The rear of the property is derelict with little to no vegetation within the small rear yard. There is little growth of ivy but nothing of any significance. See below:



Google maps data show medium sized, unidentified trees to the rear of the curtilage. These will be unaffected by development. See below aerial image.



Development Impacts:

Proposed single storey cloister extension will have little impact on the surrounding ecology. All other works are proposed to be refurbishment or interior only. The proposed extension will cover existing hard standing

What green infrastructure features have already been removed from site and/or require removal to facilitate the development?

There are no plans to remove any significant existing greenery. The ivy in the forecourt will be removed and appropriately re-landscaped.

How are the retained features being protected during development.

Construction will be contained within the existing building, while deliveries and storage will be via the front entrance

What green infrastructure is being planted as mitigation for losses?

The proposal sees a proposed wellbeing garden to the rear. The garden is set to be heavily planted. See below visual for reference



Noting that: Any replacement planting shall be at a ratio equivalent to the quality, environmental and ecological importance of the tree(s) lost, and this must be preferably onsite, or immediately adjacent to the site, and at a minimum ratio of at least 3 trees of a similar type and compensatory size planted for every 1 lost.

Proposed Biodiversity Enhancements:

Positions of the bird and bat boxes have been recommended by Nic Aldridge of Little Wing Ecology and can be seen on the revised plans.

The bird enhancement measure will take the form of 1SP Schwegler Sparrow Terrace installed on the eastern elevation, below the eaves.

The bat enhancement measures will take the form of two artificial roosts installed on the southern or western elevation, at least 3m from the ground.

In addition, the proposal sees provision of a replacement roost for the identified greater horseshoe bat.

Conclusion

It is considered that subject to the above, the proposed development would maintain and enhance biodiversity and deliver net benefits for biodiversity by ensuring that any adverse environmental effects are avoided. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that both Officers and Members of the County Council look favourably on this proposal and grant planning permission.

Date: 21/11/2024