



## Bath Heritage Watchdog

contact@bathheritagewatchdog.org

APPLICATION NUMBER: 18/01417/FUL

ADDRESS: 17 Argyle Street

PROPOSAL: Erection of 3 no. parasols on the outside terrace

CASE OFFICER: Caroline Power

DATE: 22 April 2018

COMMENT: STRONG OBJECTION

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Bath Heritage Watchdog strongly objects to this application.

No 17 Argyle Street dates from c1789 by Thomas Baldwin. Originally Argyle Buildings, it was the extension of the line of Adam's Pulteney Bridge into Pulteney's Bathwick estate. This terrace commands an imposing position adjoining Pulteney Bridge and overlooking the weir. The contrast between the street and river levels is dramatic.

The listing text includes the following '*The rear elevation of No 17 is particularly important and has been restored to something like its original appearance as shown in Thomas Hearne's watercolour 'Bath from Spring Gardens' of 1790*'.

The terrace is listed Grade II\* and is located in the Bath Conservation Area and World Heritage Site.

We are puzzled as to why the applicants have applied for the use of jumberellas (not parasols) on the terrace. Historic England made it perfectly clear in their consultation response to the application for tables and chairs on the terrace that they would only consider their use possible if the positioning of tables reverted to that originally given consent – '*Finally, we oppose the use of parasols unless the previously consented arrangement is adhered to, and they are of an appropriate colour...*'.

We see no reason as to why this position would change.

The picture below was taken previously when the unauthorised pink jumbrellas were in situ. We do not consider the change of colour to cream sufficient to mitigate the significant harm that would be caused by their use. Photographers would not be able to take a photo of the internationally iconic Pulteney Bridge without the intrusion of the jumberellas.



The importance of this particular building cannot be overemphasised. Not only is it listed Grade II\* in its own right, it is immediately adjacent to one of the most iconic and photographed buildings in the world and one which is at the heart of the World Heritage City – Pulteney Bridge.

The works as proposed are considered to be highly detrimental to the special architectural and historic character and interest of the listed building, adjacent listed buildings, especially the Grade I listed Pulteney Bridge and the Conservation Area contrary to S16 and S72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990, Section 12 ‘Conserving & Enhancing the Historic Environment of the NPPF and Policies DW1, CP6, D1, D2, D3, D8, D9, D10, and HE1 of the Core Strategy and Placemaking Plan and should be refused.