



## Bath Heritage Watchdog

contact@bathheritagewatchdog.org

APPLICATION NUMBER: 18/03526/AR

ADDRESS: Octagon Chapel, Milsom Street

PROPOSAL: Display of 3 No. internally illuminated-hanging signs, 2 No. Illuminated projection signs, 3 No. illuminated menu signs, 1 No. non-illuminated fascia sign, 1 No. non-illuminated door plaque, 1 No. non-illuminated glazing manifestation

CASE OFFICER: Helen Ellison

DATE: 12 August 2018

COMMENT: STRONG OBJECTION

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Bath Heritage Watchdog strongly objects to this application in its current format.

When determining all applications for new shopfronts and signage we ask that the following guidelines are observed.

*The context, or general setting, of Bath should be understood, respected and reflected in any proposed work to shopfronts.*

*Design, materials and workmanship should be of the highest quality.*

*Any proposed or altered shopfront should be historically credible.*

*House styles which do not meet the requirements of style, lettering, materials and signs are not acceptable. Multiples should be required to adapt their proposals to the special conditions of the city.*

*Standard designs of any sort are not acceptable. They should be specifically designed for their context.*

We also maintain our objection to the unnecessary use of illumination in the conservation area.

### GREEN STREET ENTRANCE

Although overall the design and materials are considered acceptable and an improvement on the existing, illumination is unnecessary and should be removed from proposals.

### MILSOM PLACE ENTRANCE

Sadly this aspect of the chapel was previously butchered as part of the Milsom Place project. The proposals are therefore more in keeping with this area. However we still maintain our objection to the use of unnecessary illumination.

### MILSOM STREET ENTRANCE

We strongly oppose the proposals for this entrance. Other than the proposed plant trough we can find nothing positive to the proposals. Not only are the proposed signs inelegant, clumsy and lack finesse, they involve many fixings to the historic fabric and obscure the original historic and architectural features. The menu board and plant plots are likely to be a hazard to pedestrians and again are not required. The proposed projected sign onto the pavement is also considered unnecessary and inappropriate.

### SUMMARY

Overall we are extremely disappointed and concerned at these proposals which seek to impose a corporate identity and brand onto a special, unique and relatively small building. We would urge the applicants to scale back and change their proposals considerably in order for proposals to be considered acceptable.

The works as proposed are considered to be detrimental to the special architectural and historic character and interest of the listed building, adjacent listed buildings 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 in its current format.