



Bath Heritage Watchdog

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APPLICATION NUMBER: 18/05199/LBA

ADDRESS: 8 Brunel Square

PROPOSAL: Internal alterations for display of 1no. internally illuminated replacement fascia sign and 1no. internally illuminated replacement menu sign

CASE OFFICER: Emily Smithers

DATE: 9 December 2018

COMMENT: OBJECTION

Bath Heritage Watchdog objects to this application.

Before moving on to our precise comments (which are likely to be academic in this case) we have to say that we are concerned at the decision process of this application and the parallel AR. The AR application received consent before the LBA had been validated and opened for public comment. Listed building legislation must take precedence and although a note has been added to the decision notice that the works require listed building consent which should be obtained before work is carried out, we consider that the AR should not have been determined prior to the LBA. This gives rise to an element of pre-determination to the LBA.

Specialist advice from a Conservation Officer should be sought and made public on the application.

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 maintain an objection to unnecessary illumination in the conservation area.

The current signage to this business is already considered inappropriate and harmful to the Grade II* listed station. That proposed, with the use of strident yellow, is even more harmful.

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 revised or refused in its current format.