Connor McNeill

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THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY The champion for Victorian and Edwardian architecture

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Your reference: P/22/034/LBC

Our reference: 176167

14th July 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: P/22/033/COU Change of use of a Grade 2 listed Town Hall & Museum to Museum & Cultural Centre (Sui Generis) for the Isles of Scilly including demolition of the existing modern boiler house provide space for the extension and reconfiguration of the existing 1970s extension including a new roof to accommodate new air source heat pumps. (Listed Building) The Town Hall The Parade Hugh Town St Mary's Isles Of Scilly TR21 0LP

Thank you for reconsulting the Victorian Society on this application. We are grateful for the consideration which has been given to our advice.

The amendments to the gable and height of the alterations to the 1970s extension reduce the harm it would cause and make this aspect of the proposals acceptable. The symmetrical gable will work more successfully within the traditional, vernacular townscape surrounding the Town Hall. Furthermore, the reduced height will ensure that this part of the building does not unnecessarily compete with the prominence of the Town Hall.

However, we remain concerned with the lower rear extension which has not changed since the previous consultation. In our previous letter we wrote:

'[the extension] extends beyond the line of the rear elevation of the Town Hall and its ridge height is almost equal to that of the Town Hall. This would harm the significance of the Town Hall due to its assertiveness. This is clearly demonstrated in the three-dimensional view from the southeast in which the extension appears very large and overbearing. Furthermore, it would overshadow the listed 18th century cottage beside the Town Hall, harming the setting of the listed building.'

Views of this elevation of the building are prominent from the beach and it is important that this character of this secondary elevation of the Town Hall is preserved.

We welcome the amendments that have been made to the proposals, but they could be improved further in relation to the Town Hall's significance.

I would be grateful if you could inform me of your decision in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Connor McNeill

Conservation Adviser