

## **AD-LIB ARTS - CHANGE OF USE PLANNING APPLICATION**

**Reference No 21/01486/FLL**

**Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act, 1997 as amended by Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006  
Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997**

**Change of use from business unit (class 4) to form an assembly and leisure facility (class 11) at St Martins House  
North King Edward Street Perth**

### **SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

Ad-Lib Arts (SC049397) is a registered Scottish Charity. We offer classes in Theatre Arts to the local community of all ages. We also produce and perform various shows, engage with local outreach activities, and supply corporate entertainment for events.

The impact of Covid 19 has had a devastating effect on the organisation. We were forced to exit our last property (Drummond House, Perth) due to financial implications of not being able to run classes therefore not having the same income to support expenditure such as rent etc. During lockdowns and phased returns, we continued to offer our classes online to maintain engagement with our students.

Since performing arts classes were allowed to return, we have been looking for suitable premises in Perth City Centre. As you can imagine finding a suitable property with the correct planning use is very difficult. We are now in a position where we have found somewhere that will allow us to restart our classes and for our students to return. The property in question is ideal for us. There are no changes required to the structure or interior to the building. The only thing we need in order to move in is a successful change of use application.

Prior to submitting the application, we spoke to a planning officer from Perth and Kinross council regarding if he believed there would be any issues with the application. He confirmed with environmental health that there should be no issue regarding noise pollution as the building is not connected to any residential properties.

Recently, we were successful in obtaining a grant from SCVO (Scottish Charity and Voluntary Organisations) from their Adapt and Thrive fund for rental for a year to enable us to get the organisation up and running again and allow us some time to build the business back up. The funders are looking for us to secure a property asap.

We hope that the application will be successful, so we can return and allow our students back to classes. Without face-to-face classes many of our students have been impacted. Our classes offer support and a social setting for many individuals.