

**DESIGN AND ACCESS AND JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE PROPOSED SIGNAGE OVER THE FRONT**  
**ENTRANCE DOORS TO ALFORD CORN EXCHANGE, 9**  
**MARKET PLACE, ALFORD LN13 9EB.**

**Introduction.**

The Corn Exchange was built in 1856 and is located in a prominent position on the South West corner of the main Market Place in Alford.

The property was listed on 30th June 1986, the English Heritage ID is 195543 and the list entry reads:

“Corn Exchange, now offices. 1856. Red brick with limestone dressings, hipped slate roof with 2 wall stacks. 2 storey, 3 bay front, centre bay slightly advanced, plinth, string course, moulded parapet, rusticated quoins. Central double half glazed doors in tripartite arrangement with tall flanking lights, rectangular pilasters with tiled inlay, scrolled brackets and moulded pediment. Flanked by 2 plain sashes, also in tripartite settings. To first floor 3 semi-circular headed margin light sashes with shouldered stone architraves and keyblocks. Above the middle window is a rectangular plaque inscribed in relief MDCCCLVI. At the centre of the parapet are the Town arms in stone.”

The listing refers to the external features on the front elevation and appears to describe features that are still present and unchanged.

**Background.**

In recent times the Corn Exchange has hosted the office of Alford Town Council who held Town Council meetings in the first floor office suite, previously, it has been an area office for East Lindsey District Council who were in ownership of the premises until 2014.

Until this date, the main building had been a community venue operated by the District Council, but in effect had been rarely used and subsequently was falling into disrepair.

The Alford Corn Exchange Community Group, which is a registered charity run by volunteers, took over the ownership of the building in April 2014 and have significantly upgraded the building's fabric, decor and facilities in very recent years, all subject to the necessary approvals.

The Corn Exchange now offers the building for hire for many regular and one-off events, including the use of a licensed bar. The Theatre Bar has a stylish seating area with a well equipped kitchen adjacent. The venue has the largest occupation capacity in the locality, and is truly a first rate community facility, operated by the community for the benefit of the community.

## **Proposal.**

The Corn Exchange is a very popular hub of the local community but it is noted that it can still be difficult to locate for those not familiar with the Town, such as casual function users and in particular those attending funeral wakes.

This proposal is therefore needed to clearly indicate the building for those not local to the area.

The work will involve the permanent fixing of 220mm high 6mm thick polyurethane coated brushed bronze lettering affixed to the stone plinth above the double entrance doors by epoxy resin in pre-drilled holes.

## **Context.**

~~The work will not materially affect the appearance of what is a very aesthetically pleasing building and will be in keeping with its period design.~~

**Use.**

The existing building comprises mixed use, including a large main hall for dances, theatre performances, parties, group meetings and indoor sports, and a licensed cafe bar with kitchen facilities a first floor meeting room and storage room.

**Amount.**

Not applicable.

**Layout.**

Not applicable, the proposal is to provide signage over the front entrance doors to the building.

**Scale.**

The proposal is mindful of the scale of the existing building and its detailing.  
**Appearance.**

The proposal will not adversely affect the external appearance of the building but will provide an awareness to all of the use and purpose of the building.

**Access.**

The proposal will not affect the access into or within the building.