

Max Miller statue - Lotus Notes

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Sue John To: Ian Denyer/EHBSQ/BHC@BHC
22/11/2006 16:42 cc:
Brighton & Hove Subject: Max Miller statue

Dear Ian,

Thank you for inviting responses to the proposal to resite the Max Miller statue in front of the Dome Box Office in New Road.

I believe the statue has caused some consternation since its arrival in New Road due to its rather poor quality and the fact that, as Max Miller is associated strongly with cabaret and seaside humour, a location some little way off from either the Hippodrome or the seafront seems rather inappropriate.

I had thought, therefore, that given the need to move Max from his erstwhile location, the opportunity might be taken to reconsider whether New Road is the best possible location.

I share others concerns about a position outside the Dome Box Office, at a time when we are embarking on efforts to declutter our pavements and pedestrian areas, by removing redundant signs, street furniture and other such hazards.

The designs for New Road intended to improve it for shared use and make it more pedestrian-friendly, are of a very high quality, including the associated materials. The scheme will considerably enhance what is a key gateway to the new heart of the cultural quarter around the Jubilee Library. Neither the colour scheme nor the type of stone, chosen in consultation with the public and stakeholders, sit comfortably with the Max Miller statue.

I do recognise the enormous contribution made by Max Miller to our English cultural heritage and in particular, the traditions of British comedy but hope nevertheless you will take account of my objections to the proposed resiting in New Road as Chair of the city's Culture & Tourism sub-committee. I hope every effort will be made to find Max a suitable new home in a prominent location.

Cllr Sue John
Deputy Leader
(ward councillor for South Portslade)

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