

Comment for planning application 23/00750/TEL56

Application Number	23/00750/TEL56
Location	Street Record Station Road Kirtlington
Proposal	Proposed telecommunications installation: Proposed 15.0m Phase 9 slimline Monopole and associated ancillary works
Case Officer	Gemma Magnuson
Organisation Name	Gavin & Joanna Jones
Address	Rose Mount, Station Road, Kirtlington, Kidlington, OX5 3HE
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>We are writing to object to planning application number 23/00750/TEL56. This is an application from the same company (now renamed Cignet Infrastructure) as the previous application, which was rejected. The only notable changes to the application are that the monopole will be 'slimline' (but no measurements are given) and that it will be painted green! We fail to see how a green 15m mast will be less of an eyesore than a white 15m mast.</p> <p>We are repeating our objections to the previous application as they are still relevant - those being:</p> <p>Firstly, the proposed site for the mast is within the conservation area in the village. A conservation area is "an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance". A 15m mast (and additional cabinets) is definitely not going to preserve or enhance the appearance of the village. The proposal is to site the mast against a recently renovated stone wall (not a brick wall as shown in the illustration) and the implication is that it will merge into the background. As there is nothing nearly as tall as the proposed mast already at the site, we think this is highly unlikely. There are trees nearby, but the proposed site appears to be between the trees so the mast will be clearly visible to anyone in the immediate vicinity and in the surrounding areas. Even at ground level it will be conspicuous as there is no street furniture to speak of in the area. The stone wall and lack of street furniture are clear from the site photograph within the application, which does suggest that no-one has actually been out to see the site.</p> <p>Secondly, there are on-going concerns regarding the safety of 5G technology. In 2011, the World Health Organization stated that radio-frequency radiation is "possibly carcinogenic to humans". So far, this does not appear to have been proven to be unfounded, indeed in February 2021, an article appeared in the British Medical Journal arguing that 5G rollout should be halted until more research has been conducted in to safety. Given that there are ten years between the two, it would appear that 5G safety has not yet been conclusively proved. The proposed site of the mast is extremely close to a number of houses. Surely, until their safety has been proven, these masts should not be sited near houses. We understand that 5G masts can be sited several kilometres apart in rural areas so we feel it would be more appropriate to site them between villages rather than within them.</p> <p>Thirdly, this application (as with the first one) does appear to have been pushed very much under the radar. We live within the immediate vicinity of the proposed site, and have not been officially informed of the application either by letter or even by a public notice even though it states in the documentation that neighbours and the local community have been consulted. This is not standard procedure in a planning application. We found out about it through word of mouth, and it appears that many other villagers have had a similar experience. It would seem that the hope was that the application would be approved before anyone in the village was really aware of it.</p> <p>In addition, this application states that there are lighting columns and 'numerous vertical elements of street furniture' in the immediate vicinity - this is completely untrue. There are no streetlights in this area of the village and there is one BT pole which the application says is only 7m tall - hardly numerous elements for the monopole to blend in with.</p> <p>The application also states that it will 'respect and maintain the appearance of the area' and will not result in 'harm to the character of the immediate or wider area' - both of these statements are completely false. A 15m monopole and associated cabinets in any colour are not (and can never be) in keeping with a beautiful, rural village.</p> <p>In conclusion, we strongly object to this planning application and urge the applicant to find a</p>

more suitable site.

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Attachments