

**P/14/0438/SU**

**FAREHAM EAST**

CTIL & VODAFONE LTD

AGENT: CAIP LDT

REMOVAL OF 14M STEEL MONOPOLE AND STEEL CABINET AND REPLACEMENT WITH 15M STEEL JUPITER SINGLE STACK MONOPOLE AND 3 CABINETS

WICKHAM ROAD SOUTH WICKHAM ROAD FAREHAM HAMPSHIRE PO16 7SU

***Report By***

Mark Wyatt x.2412

***Introduction***

This application is presented to the Planning Committee in accordance with the Council's scheme of delegation.

***Site Description***

The application site is located within the landscaped verge on the eastern side of Wickham Road on the approach to the northern edge of Fareham.

At ground level is an existing cabinet, coloured green. The existing mast is a slim, off white/grey coloured mono pole. The backcloth to the existing mast is mature landscaping with employment buildings beyond.

It is noted that due north of the site further along Wickham Road is another mast, with the appearance of a telegraph pole, in the control of a different telecommunications operator.

***Description of Proposal***

This application seeks confirmation that "Prior Approval is Not Required" for the replacement and installation of new telecommunications apparatus.

The application is made pursuant to Schedule 2, Part 24, Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 as amended. This part of the Order requires the applicant to apply to the Local Planning Authority for a determination as to whether the prior approval of the authority will be required to the Siting and Appearance of the development only.

In this case the site already accommodates a single monopole mast as described above. The existing mast is 14m tall.

The application proposes to erect a replacement mast, approximately 1m taller but of the same design. The new mast is to be erected 1.2m further north than the existing mast and will require the replacement of the existing cabinet plus two further cabinets at ground level to be a dark green coated steel colour.

The application drawings are supported with:

- supporting statement
- background information for telecommunications development
- ICNIRP certificate

***Policies***

The following policies apply to this application:

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)  
The Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)

### **Fareham Borough Local Plan Review**

CS17 - High Quality Design

### **Development Sites and Policies**

DPS1 - Sustainable Development

DSP2 - Design

DSP55 - Telecommunications

### **Fareham Borough Local Plan Review**

DG4 - Site Characteristics

FS7 - Telecommunications

### ***Relevant Planning History***

There is no relevant planning history for this site

### ***Representations***

None

### ***Consultations***

None

### ***Planning Considerations - Key Issues***

The key considerations for consideration are:

- The principle of development
- Siting
- Appearance
- Other matters

### **THE PRINCIPLE FOR DEVELOPMENT:**

Whilst there is no relevant planning history for this mast, the installation of the existing mast and ground cabinet on the site has established that some form of telecommunication mast on this site is acceptable in principle.

As a result of a joint operation agreement between Vodafone and Telefonica UK this site has been identified to support the antenna for both operators. As such Vodafone Limited, as the applicant, is seeking to effectively replace and resite the existing mast and share the structure with Telephonica on this site.

The installation of the additional antenna for the applicant is what essentially requires the increase in height of the mast. The new structure will also ensure that adequate 4G coverage is provided to this part of the Borough.

Saved Policy FS7 of the Borough Local Plan Review permits telecommunications developments providing it is located such that it will have a minimal visual impact, sharing of facilities is explored by the applicant, landscape mitigation is provided when appropriate and that the equipment is removed and land restored when no longer needed.

The NPPF advises Local Planning Authorities that the number of masts and base stations

should be kept to a minimum (para 43). As such the option of two operators sharing an existing location is considered acceptable in principle in order to prevent the need for a new additional mast to be sited elsewhere in the borough.

#### SITING

As described above, Part 24 of the General Permitted Development Order only facilitates the ability to consider 'siting' and 'appearance'. In this case the siting of the mast is in a location which already benefits from a telecoms installation. As such the siting of communications equipment in this location has already been established.

The site is an urban fringe location along a busy thoroughfare for traffic heading south into Fareham. The proposed siting is back from the highway and the cabinets are set against the established and mature landscaping between Wickham Road and the commercial units in Furze Hall.

The mast is in a similar location to the existing such that the mast and cabinet locations continues to be acceptable.

#### APPEARANCE:

Being sited on a verge adjacent to a busy roundabout there is some street furniture that contributes to the visual amenities of the area. Lighting columns are present as are traffic signs and road markings and a bus stop on the west side of the road. As such the provision of additional base cabinets are not considered to be demonstrably harmful to the character of the area.

The existing mast with its light coloured material reflects the column style of nearby street lighting but without the lighting head. The resultant difference of 1m in height from the existing mast is not considered to result in such a change to the appearance of the mast that the proposal is now rendered unacceptable.

The mast is proposed to be coloured the same as the existing mast such that the proposal is not considered to result in any demonstrable harm to the amenity of the area. As such the proposed installation does not require the submission of further details for consideration by the Local Planning Authority.

Were the siting to be unacceptable the operator would seek to secure an alternative site which could lead to further installations and impact upon the visual amenities of the town. This would clearly conflict with the aims of the NPPF and the saved policy FS7.

#### OTHER MATTERS:

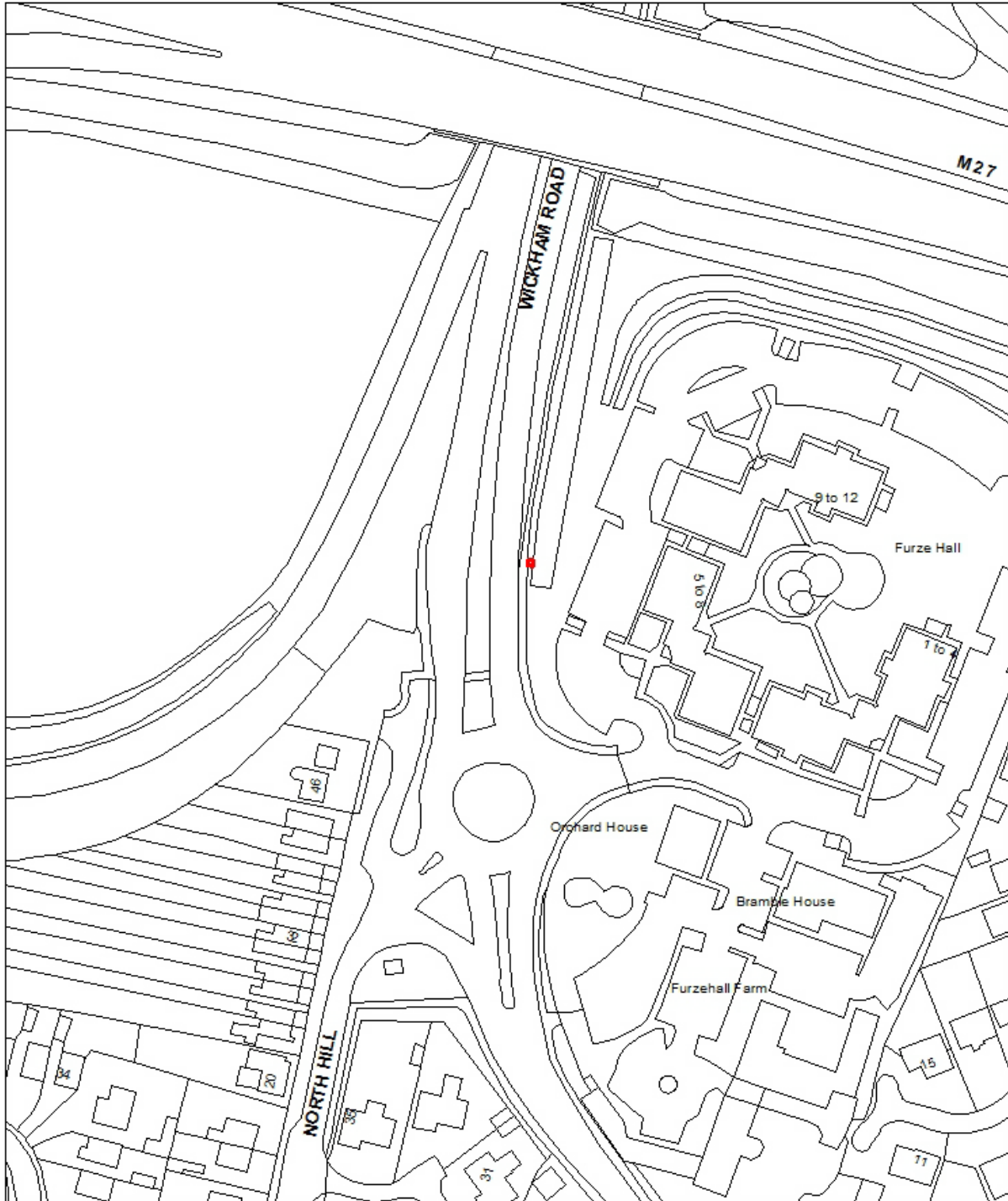
It is noted that the application has completed, as part of the submission, the declaration that the installation will be in compliance with the guidelines of the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation (ICNIRP).

#### ***Recommendation***

**PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED**

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL



Wickham Road  
Scale 1:1250

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence 100019110. 2014

