

**P/14/0702/FP**

MARK SEANEY

RETENTION OF AMATEUR RADIO MAST

56 WINNHAM DRIVE FAREHAM PO16 8QG

**PORTCHESTER WEST**

AGENT: MARK SEANEY

***Report By***

Brendan Flynn X 4665

***Introduction***

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

***Site Description***

The application site comprises a semi detached two storey modern property set on the south side of Winnham Drive.

The area consists predominantly of modern detached and semi-detached dwellings set on good sized plots strung along a formal road layout. To the immediate north of the property is a highly visible telecoms mast.

***Description of Proposal***

The applicant proposes to retain a retractable amateur radio mast standing 8 metres in height (at its lowest) and extending to 12 metres in height when in use. The mast consists of a telescopic pole supporting four delicate arms connected by fine wires. When not in use the mast is stored in its retracted position.

***Policies***

The following policies apply to this application:

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)

**Approved Fareham Borough Core Strategy**

CS15 - Sustainable Development and Climate Change

CS17 - High Quality Design

**Development Sites and Policies**

DPS1 - Sustainable Development

DSP2 - Design

**Fareham Borough Local Plan Review**

DG4 - Site Characteristics

***Relevant Planning History***

There is no relevant planning history.

***Representations***

Two letters of objection have been received from 34 and 36 Ribble Gardens raising concerns over:

- dangers to public health,
- interference with domestic appliances; and
- the potential for a larger radio receiver.

### **Consultations**

Director of Community (Environmental Health):-I can confirm that Environmental Health has no concerns regarding any potential public health effects resulting from the mast being erected at this address.

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

The key issues in the determination of the application are:

- The principle of development
- Impact on the character of the area
- Residential Amenity

#### **THE PRINCIPLE OF DEVELOPMENT:**

The application site is located within the defined settlement boundary as delineated on the inset map of the Borough Local Plan Review. The principle of development is therefore acceptable subject to other relevant matters being duly considered.

#### **IMPACT UPON THE CHARACTER OF THE AREA:**

As described previously the area is a mixture of modern detached and semi detached dwellings. The proposed radio mast is only visible in the street scene from outside the front of No.60 when fully extended to its 12 metre height. This is essentially as a result of its location on the south east corner of the building such that the dwelling itself restricts views from the west and the forward stagger to the neighbouring properties due east of the site limits views from the east. The mast, when visible from this limited public vantage point, whilst not a common feature, is slimline and of such a form that views permeate through the arms to the townscape and sky beyond. As a consequence of the mast design it is retracted when not in use.

Given the limited public impact of the proposal as set out in the reasons above the proposal is considered to be acceptable without demonstrable harm to the character of the area. It is noted that the third party comments have not expressed concern at the impact of the mast on the character and appearance of the area and that opposite the application site to the rear of the properties north of Winnham Drive is a highly visible telecoms mast.

#### **NEIGHBOURING AMENITY:**

The radio mast has been strategically placed on a side wall of the dwelling negating any impact on the adjoining property. The mast has a permeable appearance and does not unduly obscure views, an acceptable degree of separation remains between the proposal and the adjacent property.

#### **OTHER ISSUES:**

Environmental Health has been consulted and have has no concerns regarding any potential public health effects resulting from the mast being erected at this address. The mast sends and receives radio waves and the applicant is licensed to do so by Ofcom. The licence only allows the applicant to transmit across certain frequencies. Should the communications interfere with domestic appliances or the the operation of other equipment the applicant has confirmed that it is a licence requirement that he stops the interference or the matter is referred to Ofcom as the regulating body.

It is not possible to speculate as to whether the mast will be changed in the future for a different design. Should any change be required then this would be considered at that time on its merits.

**CONCLUSION:**

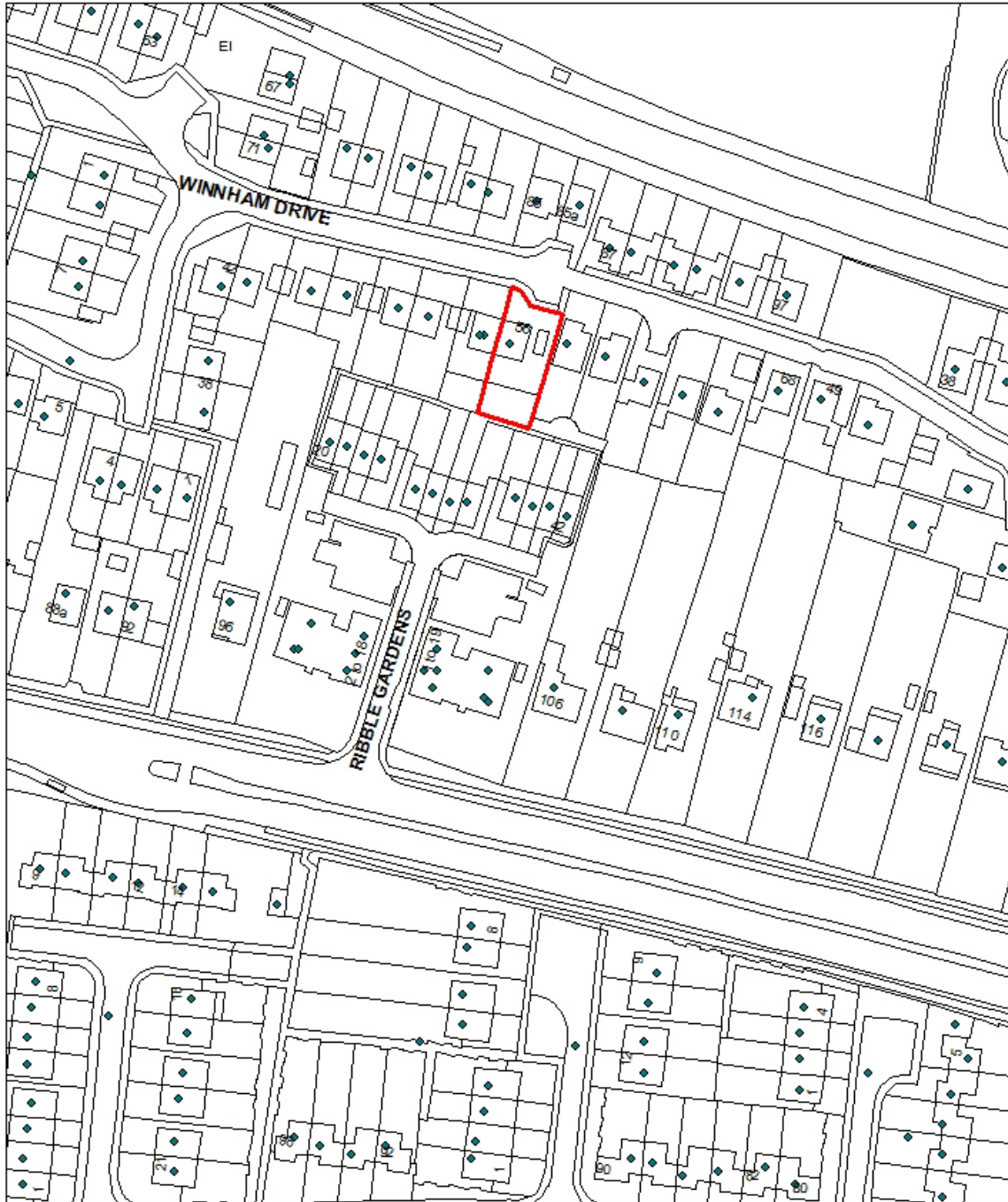
The proposal is acceptable for permission without demonstrable harm to the character of the area or the amenity of neighbouring properties.

***Recommendation***

PERMISSION

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL



56 WINNHAM DRIVE  
SCALE: 1:1,250

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