



Our Ref: **76732**

Mrs Anna Donnachie
Parish Clerk
Westhall Parish Council
Paradise Farm,
Cox Common,
Westhall,
IP19 8RH

Via Email: parishclerkwesthall@gmail.com

6th November 2018

Dear Mrs Donnachie,

Pre-Planning Application Consultation – Proposed Installation of telecoms apparatus on Land at Lower Common, Westhall, Halesworth, IP19 8QU.

We write to you as Acquisition Agents working on behalf of EE Ltd in respect of identifying a location for a mobile phone base station in the area identified on the attached plans.

The base station is required in order to provide coverage to the trains that run on this stretch of the railway and through the tunnel at this location.

We have identified one potential suitable location in the area for this installation. More details of the proposed location and type of design is given in the attached drawings.

As you will be aware, the Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) have agreed to carry out engagement with local planning authorities as a matter of Industry Best Practice. This has been developed with the support of Government along with other interested stakeholders, including the Local Government Association and Planning Officer's Society.



The process is intended to be commensurate and appropriate to the development of comparatively small scale public infrastructure development and generally outside any specific pre-application consultation process your local planning authority may have adopted.

Your co-operation within this process is therefore encouraged to help facilitate the balanced deployment of vital communications infrastructure that will deliver clear benefits to your local area.

The proposed siting of the development has been very carefully chosen to minimise any perceived visual impact. Any potential effect of the development is principally associated with the radio mast, which is the most visible component of the base station, and which cannot be fully screened for operational reasons.

The sensitive approach to siting and design should minimise the appearance of the development proposed. Insofar as the mast and compound may be visible they should look straight forward in appearance and reflect their function. To that extent, they should in time become accepted features of the local environment as with other forms of communications networks and essentially public utility infrastructure, such as roads and railways.

The number of antennas and dishes and their size has been kept to the minimum necessary to provide coverage and to link this site back into the operator's network. The design of these features is very much driven by operational and technical factors.

The number of radio equipment cabinets and their size has been limited to what is required to meet the operator's current and foreseeable future network requirements.

The location and design of the equipment cabinets, and the electronic communications equipment housed within them, reflects their functionality and the technical and operational requirement to be in reasonable proximity to the antenna systems and dishes that they support. This avoids exceptionally large runs of feeder cables and associated supporting trays, and the subsequent loss of signals.

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In accordance with all relevant health and safety legislation and guidelines, access to the site will be restricted to authorised personnel and the routine maintenance and servicing of the apparatus will only be carried out by properly trained and qualified staff.

Electronic communications base stations are specifically designed to prevent unauthorised access by members of the public and, therefore, there is no requirement to incorporate inclusive access arrangements into the proposed layout and design of the development.

We invite any comments you may have on this proposal so that they can be taken into account, where possible, in finalising the development.

We also seek your agreement on the Traffic Light Rating assessment and the associated engagement strategy followed in this case.

In accordance with best practice guidelines and the advice contained in national policy, EE is committed to undertaking wider engagement with the local community and other stakeholders who may have an interest in the development.

The proposal has, therefore, been assessed using the Traffic Light Rating Model in order to establish an appropriate level of engagement. The proposal has been categorised as Amber. In accordance with best practice guidelines, additional engagement is being undertaken with the Local Planning Authority and Ward Councilors. If, however, you feel the rating to be incorrect or consider that alternative interested parties should be notified at this stage, then please let us know and pass on relevant contact details as soon as possible.

If I do not hear from you within 7 days, I will assume that the above consultation method is satisfactory and that you have no comments to make regarding the proposed installation for the replacement site.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dom O'Connell".

Dom O'Connell
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Project Manager
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Encs.
Drawing Numbers: 76732 – Planning Drawings

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