

Morris, Rachael

From: Deputy Clerk <deputyclerk@botley-pc.gov.uk>
Sent: 12 January 2023 12:53
To: Morris, Rachael
Subject: Botley Parish Council - PN/22/94405 Grass Verge to Duke Road near junction with Paxton Close

The Planning & Highways Committee has discussed this application and agreed the following comment:

PN/22/94405 Grass Verge to Duke Road near junction with Paxton Close - The installation of an 18 metre high slim-line monopole, supporting 6 no. antennas with 1 no. wraparound equipment cabinet at the base, 2 no. equipment cabinets, 1 no. electric meter cabinet, and ancillary development thereto, including the installation of a GPS module

OBJECT

Members of the committee strongly objected on the following grounds:

- The mast would have an obvious visual impact making it an eye sore and out of keeping with the character of the local area
- A request for technical specification from Clarke-Telecom has not been forthcoming as of yet. Without seeing this, we cannot offer full comments.
- The site specific supplementary states there were no problems with 3G or 4G coverage in the local area and therefore members did not consider that this level of equipment to enable 5G was required.
- Reports show an increase in radiation by up to 2%. Committee members felt that even an increase of 2% was too much.
- The proposed site would impact the line of site for both vehicles and pedestrians, raising safety concerns.

Members of the public raised the following additional comments:

- Concerns around radiation increases leads to greater anxiety for people living in the area with various ill-health issues.
- The area in question is used by children in the area to play on. If an antenna and associated cabinets was erected in this area, there are no other grassed areas for the children to use.
- The planning application does not include any barriers around the structure leads to another safety concern in the event children/youths climb on the equipment.
- Bats are a key feature in the local area and are highly protected. There is plenty of evidence available to suggest EMF's deter bats by up to around 60% in the foraging stage. This is a strategy that is used around wind turbines to prevent bats becoming injured by flying too close. As these masts emit EMF frequencies, this would have an impact on bats in the area.
- Residents have previously liaised with the ecology team at EBC and have identified 2 species of bats living in the vicinity. Plans are in place for EBC to carry out a survey of bats in the area, however this survey is proposed to be carried out in April/May of this year. Bats do not forage until at least June and therefore this survey will be of limited use. Residents have already raised this with the ecology team so that the timing of this study can be amended.
- One resident raised the fact that he had previously struggled to obtain planning permission for an extension to his property as it was not considered to be in keeping with the area. This is also not in keeping with the local area.

Given the amount of public opposition, this matter has already been called in to HEWEB by Cllr Kyrle and Cllr Kinlock.

Debbie Case
Deputy Clerk

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Botley Parish Council

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