

43/2005/127TEN

O2 (UK) LTD

**ERECTION OF 15 M SLIMLINE MONOPOLE MAST WITH 3 NO. ANTENNAS, 1 RADIO EQUIPMENT HOUSINGS AND ANCILLARY DEVELOPMENT AT LAND AT PERRY ELM FARM, PERRY ELM, ROCKWELL GREEN AS AMENDED BY LETTER DATED 14TH NOVEMBER, 2005 WITH ACCOMPANYING DRAWING NO. P/36417F/010/A AND AMPLIFIED BY LETTER DATED 22ND NOVEMBER, 2005 WITH ACCOMPANYING DRAWING NO P/36417F/001/A**

12140/19820

NOTIFICATION - TELECOMMUNICATION

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## **PROPOSAL**

It is proposed to erect a telecommunication mast on land at the northern side of a field at Perry Elm Farm. The necessary ICNIRP Certificate has been submitted. Access for site construction would be from Perry Elm Farm. There is a wall to the south-west of the site, and a hedge with fence just to the north-west of the site. The mast would be in a fenced compound, with ancillary equipment cabinet. The applicant has proposed to plant around the compound. The plans give the impression of a line of trees to the north-west of the proposed site, there are no trees in the immediate vicinity. There is a telegraph line situated in the same field. There are a number of footpaths in the area, one of which runs close to the site.

The nearest dwellings are the residential park homes in the Exeter Road Caravan Park, and the dwellings in Dobree Park. The nearest park home is approximately 150 m away from the proposed mast and the nearest Dobree Park dwelling is approximately 275 m away.

An application for a 15 m mast at the side of Exeter Road, within the avenue of trees, was submitted and refused on the basis that the proposed mast was visually intrusive and contrary to Policy W14, which seeks to protect the main approaches into Wellington. Much of the documentation accompanying the current application is the same as was submitted with the earlier application. The agent advises that the information is applicable to both site, however while pre application advice was sought in respect of Exeter Road, no pre application advise was given in respect of the current site.

## **CONSULTATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS**

LANDSCAPE OFFICER no objection subject to suitable landscaping mitigation works, it should be possible to integrate into the rural landscape.

TOWN COUNCIL views awaited.

WELLINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL (neighbouring Council) considers the new location to be satisfactory as the visual impact and intrusion will not be great, the hedgerow shown on the plans should be reinforced with new planting.

12 LETTERS OF OBJECTION have been received raising the following issues:- health issues; the siting is still obtrusive on the A38 towards Wellington; site should be found which is remote from habitation and blends into the landscape in an unobtrusive manner; will be a huge eyesore in this area of natural unspoilt farm land; good reception in area therefore no need; a height of 15 m is going to be a particularly offensive and obvious structure; will impact quite severely on the Dobree Park estate and surrounding area; close to a popular public footpath; no better than previous proposal; will have negative effect on property values.

## **POLICY CONTEXT**

S1 General requirements, S2 Design, C14 large telecommunications masts - will be permitted provided that their siting and appearance would minimise harm to the landscape, there are not alternative sites, and no other structures or masts that could be used.

## **ASSESSMENT**

The proposal for a mast in this location, follows the refusal of permission for a site which was considered unsuitable. The current location is in an area where the mast will not be immediately visible. The mast will be visible on the skyline as a monopole, against a background of the Blackdown Hills, or other countryside, depending on direction of vision. It is not considered to be visually intrusive as it will be a substantial distance from any residential properties, and these properties are well screened by existing tree belts from the site. It is not considered that the proposal will be particularly noticeable when viewed from the A38, and is not considered to harm the approach to Wellington.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Permission be GRANTED subject to conditions of time, and landscaping

REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION:- The proposal is considered to accord with Taunton Deane Local Plan Policies S1, S2 and C14 subject to landscaping condition as it is considered that the proposal is not visually intrusive.

**In preparing this report the Planning Officer has considered fully the implications and requirements of the Human Rights Act 1998.**

**CONTACT OFFICER: 356460 MS K MARLOW (MON/TUES ONLY)**

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