

Minutes of the Planning Committee held at the Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford on Wednesday 21 December 2022

Chair - Councillor E G R Jones

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:	
F Beatty	B McKeown
A G Cooper	A Nixon
A D Hobbs	G P K Pardesi
R A James	C V Trowbridge
P W Jones	-

Officers in attendance:-

Mr J Holmes	-	Development Manager
Ms L Collingridge	-	Solicitor
Mr A Bailey	-	Scrutiny Officer

PC60 Apologies

An Apology for absence was received from Councillor A P Edgeller (Substitute R A James).

PC61 Declarations of Interest/Lobbying

Councillor A G Cooper declared that he was the Local Ward Member in respect of Application Number 22/36731/PTEL and would be participating in the discussion and voting thereon.

PC62 Application No 22/36731/PTEL - Proposed 5G telecoms installation: H3G 20m street pole and additional equipment cabinets. - Milford Road Street Works, Milford Road, Stafford, Staffordshire

(Recommendation Approve, subject to conditions).

Considered the report of the Head of Development regarding this matter.

The Development Manager reported upon the following:-

- Councillor A G Copper's reasons for the Calling-in the proposal
- The receipt of further representation in objection to the proposal
- Three Conditions that should be applied to the application should the proposal be approved
- An explanation of the six alternative sites that were considered by the applicant and the reasons as to why they were all rejected

Public speaking on the matter was as follows:-

Mr A Taylor raised the following points during his objection to the proposal:-

- Represented Berkswich Parish Council
- The site was located on a very wide grass verge with a large area of tarmac and hardstanding
- The proposal was adjacent to a single storey building
- The site had an appearance of an open area with no bushes or tress present
- Expressed concern that the proposed pole would be highly visible
- Believed that the applicant had not thoroughly investigated the six alternative sites
- Expressed disappointment that the report did not challenge the applicant and the reasons as to why the six alternative sites were rejected
- Expressed concern that the applicant had not properly discharged their responsibilities as an operator in not consulting with the Parish Council
- Requested the Committee to refuse the application as the basis of the detriment to the local amenity

The Committee discussed the application and raised a number of issues, including:-

- Clarification of the location of the site and the surrounding area
- Confirmation that the pole could not be screened
- The reasons as why the pole could not be sited on an existing site
- The reasons as to why this application could not be deferred for further consultation
- The need for the Committee to demonstrate harm in their reasons for refusing the proposal
- Confirmation that there would be visual intrusion wherever the mast would be located
- The proposed site was appropriate as there were no adjacent residential properties

It was then moved by Councillor A G Cooper and seconded by Councillor B McKeown that Planning Application Number 22/36731/PTEL be refused on the grounds of the harm caused to the street scene by the siting and appearance of the equipment.

On being put to the vote the proposal was declared to be lost.

It was then subsequently moved by Councillor F Beatty and seconded by Councillor R A James that Planning Application Number 22/36731/PTEL be approved, subject to the three Conditions as reported at the meeting.

On being put to the vote the proposal was declared to be carried.

- RESOLVED:- that Planning Application Number 22/36731/PTEL be approved, subject to the following Conditions:-
 - 1. The development to which this prior approval relates shall be commenced no later than the expiration of 5 years from the date of the granting of this prior approval.
 - 2. This prior approval relates to the originally submitted details and specification and to the following drawings, except where indicated otherwise by a condition attached to this consent, in which case the condition shall take precedence:

Drawing Numbers;

STD24999_STM053_88794_ST0706_GA_REV_A
215 Proposed Site Plan,
STD24999_STM053_88794_ST0706_GA_REV_A
265 Proposed Site Elevation,
STD24999_STM053_88794_ST0706_GA_REV_A
002 Site Location Plan

3. This prior approval permits the siting of the telecommunications equipment for as long as they are required in connection with the receiving and transmitting of radio communications signals and once that requirement ceases the equipment shall, within six months, be removed and the site reinstated to its condition immediately prior to the approval.

Reasons:

- To comply with the provisions of Schedule 2, Part 16, Class A, A.3 (11) (a) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended).
- 2. To define the permission.
- 3. To safeguard the visual amenity of the area. (Policy N1 of the Plan for Stafford Borough).

PC63 Planning Appeals

Considered the report of the Head of Development.

Notification of the following appeals had been received:-

Application Reference	Location	Proposal
21/35303/HOU	Ben Rhydding Long Lane	Ground and first floor side extension and first
Delegated Refusal	Derrington	floor rear dormer roof extension.
21/34415/HOU	Thyon Bradley Lane	Increase in ridge height to existing dwelling to
Delegated Refusal	Bradley	take dormer bungalow to a two-storey dwelling with two-storey side and front extensions.

CHAIR