

MILTON ABBAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 01 August 2022
in the READING ROOM, MILTON ABBAS, at 7.00pm

PRESENT

Mr P. Amor
Mr S. Gould
Mr T. Ives
Mr S. Martin

Mr S. Driver
Mr N. Hodder (Chair)
Mr T. Khandwala

IN ATTENDANCE Mrs E. Sellen (Clerk) and six members of the general public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs. Emma Parker (Dorset Councillor), Mr R. Woodhouse. Reasons for apologies were unanimously received by attending Councillors.

2. DISPENSATIONS

SG's dispensation to discuss the mast application was approved in July.

3. PLANNING

Application

P/PAEL/2022/04137 Milton Abbas ATE Windmill Clump – Proposed base station installation including 25.00m high fli tower on proposed root foundation, 3no. antennas, 1no GPS module, 3no cabinets and all other ancillary development.

NH confirmed that an Ellie-gram had been circulated on 14th July and similar announcements were made on various Milton Abbas community Facebook pages. Five comments had been made on Facebook, mainly in favour of the application. The Councillors have received various communications from Cellnex, the agent representing Vodafone and Telefonica. PAEL applications are in essentially advisory applications as the applicant believes permitted development rights apply.

Cellnex have contacted both neighbours and the Dorset Councillor. One neighbour, Mr J. Kyall (present at the meeting) had been engaged in email communications, which had been made available to the Council.

Steeptonbill Farm application had been granted at appeal in May 2018 and the three year time limit has expired. Dorset Council confirmed that there is no service for obtaining an extension before or after expiry of the three year period.

Coverage maps had been provided and were demonstrated on the projector screen by NH. It was established that the proposed application would provide reasonably good coverage across a reasonably good area of the Parish. Extremities of the parish such as Hewish Farm (on the road towards Milborne St Andrew), King Edward Drive and Delcombe are likely poorly covered.

NH invited JK to comment, as a neighbour to the development. JK felt that this is good for the community, it won't be lit, so it won't be too invasive. He expressed

some concerns as to interruptions during the installation but acknowledged that these would be temporary. He stated that BT are not maintaining their boundary tree growth, and he wondered whether there would be additional maintenance issues arising from the new installation, but in his opinion, the proposal should still be considered as beneficial to the community.

Whilst this is a Vodafone/Telefonica venture, government legislation dictates that all mast facilities must be open for sharing, so other providers could also use this site in the future.

NH invited questions from the public. Mrs F. Robinson asked about reception in the street. NH demonstrated that the pink/purple colour denoted full coverage. FR noted that since the far end of Catherine's Well and adjoining developments cannot benefit from superfast broadband, it is hoped that they will enjoy good mobile signal from the mast.

It was acknowledged by the Councillors that it is likely to be this proposal or no proposal and members of the public also expressed their opinion that we don't dare say no to this application. It was proposed by NH, seconded by TK and unanimously agreed that the Councillors should support this proposal as being the best offer available to Milton Abbas at this time.

4. CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS None

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Councillors were reminded that the next meeting would take place on 14th September 2022 and, there being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.25pm.

Signed:
(Presiding Chairman)

Date: