

Our ref: **CTIL 11735422**

09/12/2022

Parish Clerk
Whittlesey Town Council Offices
Peel House
8 Queen Street
Whittlesey
PE7 1AY

Clarke Telecom Ltd
Unit E
Madison Place
Northampton Road
Manchester
M40 5AG

Dear Sir/Madam,

PROPOSED UPGRADE TO EXISTING RADIO BASE STATION INSTALLATION AT CTIL 11735422 OTAGO ROAD, BASSENHALLY ROAD, WHITTLESEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, PE7 1XF, NGR E: 527543 N: 297650

Cornerstone is the UK's leading mobile infrastructure services company. We acquire, manage, and own over 20,000 sites and are committed to enabling best in class mobile connectivity for over half of all the country's mobile customers. We oversee works on behalf of telecommunications providers and wherever possible aim to:

- promote shared infrastructure
- maximise opportunities to consolidate the number of base stations
- significantly reduce the environmental impact of network development

Cornerstone is in the process of identifying a suitable site in the Whittlesey area for a radio base station to maintain and improve existing levels of service provision. The purpose of this letter is to consult with you and seek your views on our proposal before proceeding with the works. We understand that you are not always able to provide site specific comments, however, Cornerstone is committed to consultation with communities on our mobile telecommunications proposals and as such would encourage you to respond.

As part of Cornerstone's continued network improvement program, there is a specific requirement for an upgrade to the existing installation at this location to provide enhanced coverage and capacity, and new 5G coverage ensuring that this area of Whittlesey has access to the latest technologies.

Mobiles can only work with a network of base stations in place where people want to use their mobile phones or other wireless devices. Without base stations, the mobile phones, and other devices we rely on simply won't work.

Please find below the details of the proposed site.


Our technical network requirement is as follows:

In the first instance, all correspondence should be directed to the agent.

Cornerstone Planning Consultation Letter to Councillors - Standard V.3 – 15/04/2021

Registered Address:

Cornerstone Telecommunications, Infrastructure Limited,
Hive 2, 1530 Arlington Business Park, Theale, Berkshire, RG7 4SA.
Registered in England & Wales No. 08087551.
VAT No. GB142 8555 06

 Cornerstone, Hive 2,
1530 Arlington Business Park,
Theale, Berkshire, RG7 4SA

CTIL 11735422 OTAGO ROAD

The site is needed to provide enhanced 2G, 3G, 4G coverage and capacity as well as new 5G service provision to ensure that customers experience access to the latest technologies currently available. The installation will also meet the extra demands on the network in this area as new technologies improve increasing the demand for 4G and 5G technologies.

The Government recognises that widespread coverage of mobile connectivity is essential for people and businesses. People expect to be connected where they live, work, visit and travel. That is why the Government is committed to extending mobile geographical coverage further across the UK, with continuous mobile connectivity provided to all major roads and to being a world leader in 5G. This will allow everyone in the country to benefit from the economic advantages of widespread mobile coverage. As well as improved mobile signal, 5G networks are also crucial to drive productivity and growth across the sectors that local areas are focusing on through their emerging Local Industrial Strategies. Enabling and planning for 5G implementation is central to achieving the Government's objective to deliver prosperity at the local level and enable all places to share in the proceeds of growth.

The Government is determined to ensure the UK receives the coverage and connectivity it needs. To this end, the Government wants to be a world leader in 5G, the next generation of wireless connectivity, and for communities to benefit from the investments in the new technology.

The case for 5G is compelling as it will bring faster, more responsive and reliable connections than ever before. More than any previous generation of mobile networks, it has the potential to improve the way people live, work and travel, and to deliver significant benefits to the economy and industry through the ability to connect more devices to the Internet at the same time, creating the so-called "Internet of Things". This will enable communities to manage traffic flow and control energy usage, monitor patient health remotely, and increase productivity for business and farmers, all through the real-time management of data.

The demand for mobile data in the UK is increasing rapidly, and as households and businesses become increasingly reliant on mobile connectivity, the infrastructure must be in place to ensure supply does not become a constraint on future demand.

The preferred Cornerstone option is as follows:

OTAGO ROAD, BASSENHALLY ROAD, WHITTLESEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, PE7 1XF, NGR E: 527543 N: 297650

The proposed works comprise the removal of the existing 15m monopole supporting 3 no. antennas and the installation of a replacement 20.0m monopole supporting 3 no. replacement antennas and 3 no. additional antennas. The installation of 2 no. 300mm dishes and ancillary development thereto including the installation of 3 no. Remote Radio Units (RRUs) and 1no. GPS module.


The operators are proposing to upgrade their existing installation to ensure the latest high quality, reliable, secure communications technology is able to be provided from this location. The amendments to the existing scheme are essential in order that customers' handheld devices continue to operate for the purposes in which they have become accustomed, accessible wherever they are whether that be indoors or outside.

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The proposed height at 20m is essential in order to provide equivalent replacement coverage to the target coverage area. 5G new radio technologies operate in higher frequency bands than older technologies. Since it operates at higher frequencies where attenuation of the radio signal is naturally higher and the effects of clutter are greater it will normally require a higher structure to achieve the same coverage footprint. To increase capacity and data speeds to the user, the antenna will normally need to be mounted higher than conventional antennae. These factors drive a requirement for an increase in antenna height in 5G.

The new antennas are all unshrouded for technical reasons. However, they have been designed to be as tight as possible and virtually the same width as the main column, to minimise their visual appearance. The higher the radio frequency the more signal attenuation there is. The higher frequency 5G antennas are unable to operate effectively through the Glass Reinforced Plastic that the shroud is made up of and as such if these antennas were to be shielded then they would not be able to provide the necessary coverage to the target coverage area. An additional installation would be needed elsewhere within the cell area, leading to the proliferation of masts.

This is the slimmest design possible which will enable all technologies to be supported from this site. If the column width were to be any slimmer then the technology would not fit in the one column and another radio base station would be required, which would lead to the proliferation of masts contrary to national planning guidance. Similarly if the column were to be a uniform width throughout then the overall width would have to increase which would appear more visually prominent in the streetscene, than the proposed design.

The design of the column is a simple, functional, vertical structure which will not appear incongruous within the streetscene given the other vertical structures within the immediate area which help provide context for the replacement column. The column is proposed to be finished in a grey colour but can be coloured any other colour that the LPA consider appropriate.

As this is an existing streetworks installation and the amendments are relatively minor in nature, this is sequentially the most preferable site for the operators to upgrade their existing service provision to this cell area. As such, no other options have been considered.

The Local Planning Authority mast register and our records of other potential sites have already been reviewed, the policies in the Development Plan have been taken into account and the planning history of the site has been examined.

All Cornerstone installations are designed to be fully compliant with the public exposure guidelines established by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). These guidelines have the support of UK Government, the European Union and they also have the formal backing of the World Health Organisation. A certificate of ICNIRP compliance will be included within the planning Notification.

In order to give you time to send your comments or request further information, we commit to allow at least 14 days before proceeding with the works. This 14-day period starts from the date at the top of this letter.


We would also be grateful if you could please advise of any local stakeholders or groups that might like to make comments. For your information pre-consultation letters and a set of plans have been sent to the local ward councillors for Bassenhally Ward (Cllrs K. Mayor, C. Boden), local MP, the head teacher and chair of governors of Alderman Jacobs Primary School and Planning officers.

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We look forward to receiving any comments you may have on the proposal within 14 days of the date of this letter.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me (quoting cell number [CTIL 11735422])

Yours faithfully




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Clarke Telecom
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(for and on behalf of Cornerstone)

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