



Cell Number: RIV010/20417

9th December 2022

The Chief Planning Officer
Ribble Valley Borough Council
Council Offices
Church Walk
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2RA

Dear Sir/Madam

H3G (UK) Limited

PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF 1 NO. HALF-HEIGHT GANTRY POLE ON 1 NO. ERS RAIL ATTACHED TO A UNISTRUT, REPLACEMENT OF 1 NO. EQUIPMENT CABINET AND DEVELOPMENT ANCILLARY THERETO AT CLITHEROE CONSERVATIVE CLUB, CASTLE STREET, CLITHEROE, LANCASHIRE, BB7 2BT. NGR (E: 374292, N: 441848).

We write on behalf of H3G (UK) Limited, to make a formal application for the installation of telecommunications apparatus at the above location. This location has been identified as being necessary for H3G's business development and meets its specific technical and operational requirements.

The proposed replacement mast has been sited and designed in order to improve and support the existing mobile network. At present it is paramount that digital connectivity is supported and maintained throughout the country. In particular the current massive shift in user demand from city centres and places of work to residential areas and suburbs requires an improvement in coverage and capacity throughout the whole network.

Base stations use radio signals to connect mobile devices and phones to the network, enabling people to send and receive; calls, texts, emails, pictures, web, TV and downloads. Without base stations, mobiles devices and phones will not work.

Many other everyday items also use radio signals to send and receive information, such as television and radio broadcasting equipment and two-way radio communications. Base stations are connected to each other and telephone exchange buildings by cables or wireless technology such as microwave dishes, to create the network. The area each base station covers is called a "cell". Each cell overlaps with its neighbouring cells to create a continuous network. The size and shape of each cell is determined by the features of the surrounding area, such as buildings, trees and hills which can block signals. When people travel between cells, the signal is transferred between base stations without a break in service. Each base station covers a certain area only and can only handle a limited number of calls at once. As mobile phones and devices become more popular, more base stations are needed to ensure continuous coverage.

The proposed development is within the limits set out in Part 16 for permitted development with Prior Approval. The location enables the whole of the surrounding area to benefit from improved network coverage and has been designed to be future proof, thus enabling other technologies to be deployed depending upon the demand required. As the shift in demand is expected for the foreseeable future and that as central government considers digital communications to be a critical national infrastructure, we intend to support customers and local residents by ensuring as little disruption as possible.

H3G (UK) Ltd benefit from permitted development rights for this development as set out under the above Order. Under Schedule 2, Part 24 of the Town and Country Planning General Permitted Development Order 1995 (As

Unit E3, Pitts Cleave Industrial Estate, Tavistock, PL19 0PW



amended) H3G (UK) Ltd is required to apply to the local planning authority for a determination as to whether the prior approval of the authority will be required to the siting and appearance of the development set out below:

The installation of 1 no. half-height gantry pole on 1 no. ERS rail attached to a Unistrut, replacement of 1 no. equipment cabinet and development ancillary thereto.

This application follows offers of pre-application consultation dated 24th November 2022. It is proposed to introduce new infrastructure to the area to allow new technology which will allow networks to be able to handle more data and connect more devices simultaneously at much faster speeds. This will enable the area to remain competitive and will support the Government's ambition for the UK to become a world leader in telecommunications technologies and development. Section 5 of the NPPF sets out the Government's general overview regarding supporting high quality communications infrastructure, recognising that advanced, high-quality communications infrastructure is essential for sustainable economic growth. In order to keep the number of base stations to a minimum, the use of existing sites is considered to provide the optimum solution and accordingly the proposed site upgrade should be viewed positively. As such, no alternative locations were sought in this instance.

It is imperative that support is given to the introduction of new infrastructure to allow new technology as this will allow networks to be able to handle more data and connect more devices simultaneously at much faster speeds than is possible using the existing technology.

In support of the application the following information is enclosed: -

- Application form and relevant certificates
- Planning drawings
- Prescribed fee - £494.20 including the Planning Portal fee.
- Supplementary Information Template
- ICNIRP

In selecting the site, the applicant has had regard to national and local planning policies, the site context, potential alternative solutions, visual impact, health and safety considerations as well as operational need. It is considered that the application site and the proposed form of development provide the optimum solution in this instance.

Should you have any queries in respect of the information submitted or indeed require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. In the meantime, I await your earliest positive response.

Yours faithfully,

Helen K Bolam

Helen Bolam
Town Planner
Beacon Communications Ltd
For and on behalf of H3G (UK) Limited

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