

## **Hutchinson Networks UK Limited 5G mast on Sea Mills Square – appeal to the planning inspectorate – comments by 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2022 – appeal ref APP/Z0116/W/21/3280955**

Sea Mills and Coombe Dingle Together (SMCDT) have objected to the proposed siting of the 5G mast on Sea Mills Square because of the effect it will have on the character and appearance of the area. Whilst we recognise the need for 5G in the area and welcome more coverage, we are against the siting of this particular mast

If you have already commented on the planning application made to Bristol City Council your comments will be passed on to the planning inspectorate. We feel it is important however to ask people to write again, or for the first time to:

- Show there are continued strong feelings about the position of this mast
- Respond to information in the mobile operators appeal

We have provided this information sheet to give you an idea of the sort of objections that have been used successfully by residents and councils in other areas. Some of the wording comes from planning inspector reports when they have refused masts at appeal. We will also include some information from the [Sea Mills Conservation Area Character Appraisal](#).

Please note that the inspector will consider comments on character and appearance of the development only as that is their jurisdiction.

### **Why would I comment and what would I say?**

The [Character Appraisal](#) states in section 4b that threats to the character of the area include:

- Alterations to the original plan form or character of Sea Mills Square
- Unsympathetically placed mobile phone and other masts

Also stating:

- Enclosed open spaces are an important defining characteristic of a garden suburb (Paragraph 6.1.28) (The Square is an enclosed open space)
- The preservation of all types of views both within and out from the Conservation Area is vital in protecting its character and special interest (Paragraph 6.2.11)
- It is important to the roofscape of the Garden Suburb that no more buildings are permitted to punctuate the skyline as this would detract from the skyline as originally planned with just the two churches punctuating it. (Paragraph 8.40)

CK Hutchinson Networks state in their appeal that they have sought to mitigate ‘any perceived detrimental effects’ by siting the mast near mature trees and street lamps. We feel that the trees on the Square, the existing 6 metre street lamps and 15.4 metre Addison’s Oak will do little to screen the mast. We feel the mast will dominate the Square and rather than be screened by the oak, it will be detrimental to its setting and also to the setting of the Methodist Church which is a landmark building in the Conservation Area.

## **I want to help - how do I do it?**

Comments must be received by **21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2022, either online or by post.**

Comments online can be made at <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/> enter **3280955** in the 'search for a case' box to be taken to the form. You don't have to write a lot, but mentioning some of the key phrases below and the [Character Appraisal](#) above may help.

If by post you must send three copies including:

- your name and address
- the Planning Inspectorate appeal number - **APP/Z0116/W/21/3280955**
- the address of the appeal site – Shirehampton Road, Bristol BS9 2EE

and say:

- 'I am against the appeal proposals' and explain why

Send to: The Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN

### **Key phrases used in rejections of other masts (for your inspiration):**

- adverse impact on the character and appearance of the locality
- visually prominent location
- significant harm to the living conditions of nearby residents through the creation of poor outlook
- considerably more prominent than the existing street furniture
- would sit uncomfortably in this context and would significantly erode the character of the local street scene
- incongruous unnatural and out of scale
- stark, industrial and alien feature
- would not visually integrate
- visually prominent within the skyline
- rising above the low-level built development
- not capable of being effectively screened by the existing street furniture

### **Other helpful materials...**

The [appeal documents can be found at the planning portal](#) or by searching on the Bristol City Council Planning Portal for Reference **21/02990/Y** these include the [grounds for appeal document](#) from Hutchinson Networks UK Limited

The Government website also includes [some useful information about taking part in planning appeals](#)