



19th March 2021

Proposed radio mast for Good Intent/High Street Edlesborough

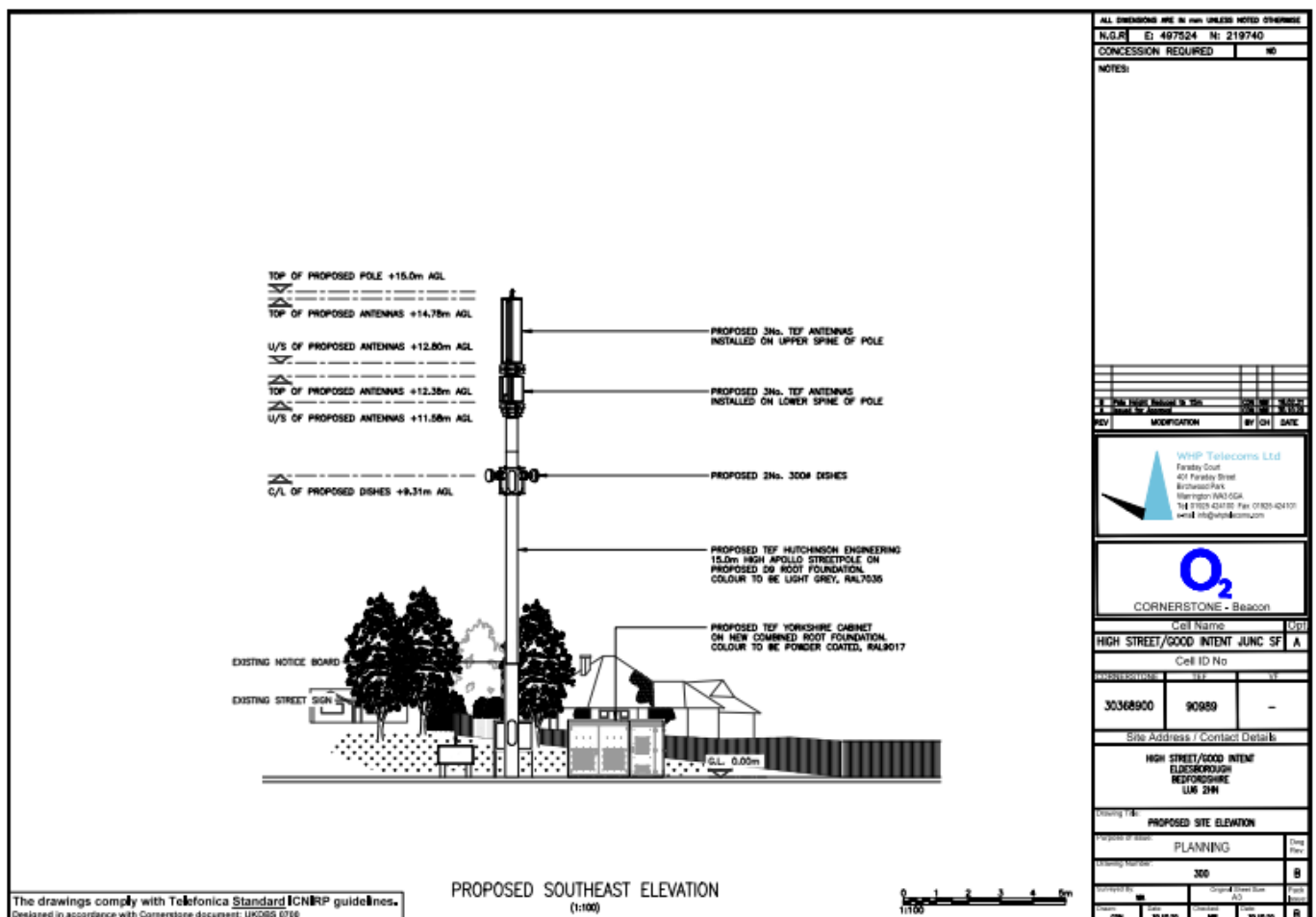
Edlesborough Parish Council (EPC) wishes to draw Parishioners attention to their response to a pre-application consultation letter from Clarke Telecom.

Clarke Telecom recently sent a pre application consultation letter to EPC asking for the Council's response to proposed plans for the installation of a 15m mast and cabinet at the junction of Good Intent and High Street, Edlesborough.

The communication stated that the mast and cabinet would enable smart metering to be installed in the Edlesborough area as well as high quality 2G, 3G and 4G telecommunications.

EPC were given 14 days to respond and given the nature of the proposal the Council worked quickly to agree and send the following response. The response was then ratified at the March EPC meeting.

EPC will continue to be vigilant for any further communications or developments in relation to this proposal.



Edlesborough Parish Council's Response

"Edlesborough Parish Council is OPPOSED to the proposal to install a 15 metre high mast and associated equipment cabinet at the junction of the High Street and Good Intent in Edlesborough. The reasons for objecting are as follows:

1. The Council questions the need for a mast within the adopted Neighbourhood Plan settlement boundary. The proposal states that such a site is required to provide the necessary connectivity for Smart energy meters and yet EE already provide perfectly adequate 2G, 3G and 4G coverage without the need for a mast within the settlement boundary.
2. If it can be demonstrated that a mast is essential within the settlement boundary, the site chosen must be discreet. The proposed location couldn't be in a more prominent and exposed location, right in the centre of the village.
3. The proposal states that the equipment cabinet would be similar to other utility company cabinets. Whilst that may be true, the location of the cabinet in such an open space would make it much more prominent than other such cabinets which are usually located next to hedges or boundary walls, making them far less intrusive in the street scene. Examples of such installations can be seen almost directly opposite the proposed location, where two utility cabinets are positioned just in front of the hedge bordering the allotments.
4. Furthermore, the proposed cabinet would be positioned immediately in front of an existing planter box, completely obscuring the planter from most vantage points in the High Street.

Whilst additional mobile telecoms provision is desirable, it is not essential. If it is to be provided, the site chosen must be in a discreet location, not in a residential area, and preferably outside the settlement boundary.

If Clarke Telecom can provide details of the range of the antennae being considered and whether they just need to cover the village of Edlesborough or the entire Edlesborough/Eaton Bray conurbation, the Parish Council would be prepared to use its local knowledge to help identify a more suitable location for the installation.

Please note the correct spelling of Edlesborough. It's not Eldesborough!

Edlesborough Parish Council"

EPC copied Buckinghamshire Councillors Anne Wight and Chris Poll, and Greg Smith MP into their response.

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