

From: [REDACTED]
To: [DC Consultation](#); [Colin Godfrey](#)
Subject: Re: Planning Application Consultation 20NP0007 on the grass verge to the south side of A68, Rochester, Northumberland
Date: 14 February 2020 17:19:19

Dear Colin

20NP0007 - Installation of an 8 metre high smart metering radio mast and associated works at on the grass verge to the south side of A68, Rochester, Northumberland

Thank you for sharing the details of this application that has been considered by the Parish Councillors and local residents. Please note the Chair, Susan Chapman, declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.

All Parish Councillors agreed to object the the application and believe it should be declined. The reasons stated are as follows

- A project in Rochester is in the closing stages of putting the electric cables underground. This is very welcomed by residents and visitors as removing obstruction to the wonderful scenery within Redesdale. As such there is no appetite and indeed it is felt very insensitive by applicant to propose to add a mast reversing some of the benefits the underground cabling project is bringing to the community.

- The Statement paper (page 13) suggests alternative options that have been considered and rejected by the applicant. The Parish Councillors believe many of these other locations would be far more preferable that what is being suggested. Reading the reasons provided it would appear laziness or monetary reasons for suggesting the chosen location. It is not believed that there would be any objection should either option 2 or 3 were chosen. Indeed I can provide photos, if required, that I have received showing two masts currently located on Redesdale Camp that both have easy access and are in close proximity with each other.

- Supporting plans suggest that actually the mast is higher than the 8m documented as attached antennae would push the height by at least a further couple of metres.

- It is assumed that permission has been given by the landowner to locate the mast on this land. However it is understood that there has been no approach for permission to land owner of land that would required to be accessed if the project were to go ahead.

- Local residents who received a letter did not have time to reply to Harlequin within the stated timescales. However a number of these residents have approached the Parish Council

stating their objection on the detrimental visual impact this mast would have.

It is believed by the Councillors that the applicant must have a tight timescale to install these Smart masts and this perhaps is the reason for this location being requested by them as this would appear to be the quickest, easiest and cheapest option. It is perhaps this reason that no consideration has been given the negative impact on the local landscape.

The Parish Council strongly recommend that the application is declined and would be open to communication from the applicant to identify a more appropriate location.

Regards

Martin Chilvers
Parish Clerk
Rochester with Byrness Parish Council

On Tue, 28 Jan 2020 at 10:22, NNPA Planning Consultations

<dcconsultation@nnpa.org.uk> wrote:

Please see the attached consultation regarding a planning application which has been received by Northumberland National Park Authority. Full details can be viewed at <http://nnpa.planning-register.co.uk/plaPlanningAppDisplay.aspx?AppNo=20NP0007>

DC Consultation, Development Control Consultation

Telephone: Mob:

Web:

www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk<<http://www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk/>>

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