

Martyn Knapton <martyn.knapton@clarke-telecom.com>

To: stody pc @gmail.com

Email received – 7th October 2022

Thank you for your email dated the 22nd of August and the corresponding attachment.

In response I note;

1. Please note that we allow the local planning authority to determine the relevant information required as part of the planning submission. If North Norfolk District Council govern that a Visual Impact Assessment, Ecology Report or even an Archaeology report are necessary, we will of course provide the requested the surveys. Which the Council will of course make viewable to the public via their planning portal.
2. Clarke Telecom have exhaustively investigated the area for a suitable location in conjunction with the operator dating back to 2018. I can personally attest to the fact that no short cut's have been undertaken in the site selection process, as I have been involved in the process since the outset. As best practice we include, what may be seen as some of the more obvious discounts within the application. This aids in demonstrating the benefits of the proposed site against the more exposed or inaccessible areas and illustrates to the relevant stakeholders that the entirety of the search area has been investigated.
 - With advances in technology church towers are no longer a viable option, owing to limitations on azimuths and signal propagation issues due to the width of the masonry (size and height of the louver windows). With St Lawrence Church being a Grade 2 listed property, it is not deemed visually acceptable to install the required operational equipment on the outside of the church tower.
3. The financial offer made is in line with the four-stage valuation set out in the Electronic Communications Code 2017. The Parish Council's appointed Land Agent will be able to provide further information in this regard and advise as to what steps can be undertaken by the Grantor.
4. The proposed installation won't impact any of the existing woodland, as we have designed the site within an existing clearing within the wood. If deemed appropriate a planting scheme can be incorporated into the design to further assimilate the ground-based equipment into the landscape.

Alternative Suggestions;

- Extensive programming work is undertaken by the operators, VMO2 in this case (Formally Telefonica), with radio engineers utilising Coverage Planning Tools that incorporate, propagation models, information on existing and proposed cell sites, terrain and clutter. The information inputted into the planning tool allows the radio

engineers to firstly establish areas of coverage deficiency (Coverage Holes) and subsequently ascertain the best area within deficiency zone that will best infill the coverage hole. A site located in the vicinity of either Thornage or Sharrington would lead to unnecessary coverage overlap and subsequently provide a lesser infill to the deficiency zone.

- As you have aforementioned, a site installed in these two locations will be deemed to be more visually intrusive. As previously mentioned, numerous factors are considered, including but not limited to – access requirements, electricity connection, transmission link, natural screening, coverage requirements, terrain and network requirements during the site selection process. The operator has determined that the site at Hunworth Common best meets their requirements to infill the deficiency hole, namely for the Government led programme, Smart Meter Infrastructure Project.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on either my mobile 07376605666 or by return of this email. In the meantime, I will liaise with the PC's appointed Land Agent in reference to the Heads of Terms.

Kind regards

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