

Our ref: **CTIL_208044_VF_13307**

Head Teacher
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Dear Head Teacher

PROPOSED BASE STATION INSTALLATION AT CTIL_208044_VF_13307 LAND AT VICTORIA ROAD CAR PARK, RUTHIN ROAD, WREXHAM, NORTH WALES, LL13 7TT NGR E: 332827 N: 349928

Vodafone Limited has entered into an agreement with Telefonica UK Limited pursuant to which the two companies plan to jointly operate and manage a single network grid across the UK. These arrangements will be overseen by Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Ltd (CTIL) which is a joint venture company owned by Vodafone Limited and Telefónica UK Limited.

This agreement allows both organisations to:

- pool their basic network infrastructure, while running two, independent, nationwide networks
- maximise opportunities to consolidate the number of base stations
- significantly reduce the environmental impact of network development

CTIL and Vodafone are in the process of seeking a suitable site in this part of Wrexham for a radio base station. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information on the proposal and the opportunity for you to seek further information should you wish to do so.

As part of Vodafone's continued network improvement program, there is a specific requirement for a new radio base station at this location to provide high quality indoor 3G and 4G service provision. Currently, the operator has little to no 3G and 4G coverage in this cell area. An installation in this location would fill the 'gap' in the existing coverage in line with local and national guidance and the Governments increasing support to enable everyone to connect to the information super highway. Having access to high quality communication infrastructure brings with it significant social and economic benefits. An installation in this location would also provide new 4G services for Telefónica in line with its 4G license requirements. It will also enable Telefónica's existing 2G and 3G services to be improved.

The proposal, which we feel is the best solution to serve our customers in the local community, will include 15m slim-line column supporting 3 no. shrouded antennas, 3 no. equipment cabinets, 1 no. meter cabinet and ancillary development thereto at LAND AT VICTORIA ROAD CAR PARK, RUTHIN ROAD, WREXHAM, NORTH WALES, LL13 7TT NGR E: 332827 N: 349928. This is because it is set back some 40m from the roadside on private land nestled between trees and bushes, over 40m from residential properties. To the north is a car garage, to the west are allotments, and in between the residential properties is a row of semi mature trees, track and car park. The trees will help shield the installation from appearing prominent for the occupants of these properties together with the separation distance.

The operators are proposing the most sensitive design currently available to them which will provide the necessary coverage and capacity to the surrounding area. To this end, the antennas are shielded within a shroud at the top of the column. Whilst this restricts the efficiency of the antennas from providing maximum coverage to the surrounding area, the operator has compromised on optimal coverage in order to minimise environmental impact. However, meaningful coverage will still be provided.

The proposed design is more visually sensitive and much easier to assimilate into a streetscene than lattice towers or unshrouded pole designs with bulky headframes. These non-stealth designs are preferred by operators as they are structurally capable of hosting more equipment and give greater scope for antenna orientation and are thus more efficient structures. However, such designs would appear alien in this location. Therefore the operator has compromised on obtaining maximum coverage in order to better assimilate in to its surroundings.

The design of the column resembles as closely as possible the other existing vertical structures within the immediate area. It is a simple, functional, vertical structure which will not appear out of place in the streetscene.

The column height of 15m is essential in order to clear the urban clutter and tree canopy in the immediate area. If the column were to be any lower in height it would not be able to reach the target coverage area and an additional installation would still be required. This would lead to the proliferation of masts, contrary to national planning guidance.

All Vodafone installations are designed to be fully compliant with the public exposure guidelines established by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). These guidelines have the support of UK Government, the European Union and they also have the formal backing of the World Health Organisation. A certificate of ICNIRP compliance will be included within the planning submission. In fact, because of the very low power utilised by telecommunications sites the emissions will be many times lower than the ICNIRP threshold.

We would welcome your views (within 14 days of the date of this letter) before we finalise the proposal and submit the planning application to the Local Planning Authority.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Hann".

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(For and on behalf of CTIL and Vodafone Ltd)