



## BRECON BEACONS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

### DELEGATED DECISION REPORT

<b>Application No:</b>	15/11899/FUL	<b>Case Officer:</b>	Miss Kate Davies
<b>Site Notice Posted:</b>	17th Mar 2015	<b>Consultation Date:</b>	4th Mar 2015
<b>Date Valid:</b>	27th Feb 2015	<b>8 Week Target:</b>	24th Apr 2015
<b>Decision Type:</b>	Delegated Decision		
<b>Proposal:</b>	Telecoms upgrade of associated works		
<b>Address:</b>	The Farmhouse, Ty Edmund, Church Road		

### CONSULTATIONS/COMMENTS

Consultee	Received	Comments
Llanelly Community Council		No comments received
Monmouthshire County Council Highways	9th Apr 2015	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b> There are no adverse comments I would wish to make from a highway viewpoint.  It should be brought to the attention of the applicant that in the event of a new or altered vehicular access being formed, the requirements of Section 184 of the Highways Act 1980 must be acknowledged and satisfied. In this respect the applicant shall apply for permission pursuant to Section 184 of the Highways Act 1980 prior to commencement of access works via the MCC Highways.
Health And Safety Executive	4th Mar 2015	Does not advise against the granting of planning permission
Heritage Officer (Archaeology)	13th Mar 2015	Consultation of the regional Historic Environment Record and sources held by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority indicates that no known historic or archaeological features will be affected

by this development, and this application is unlikely to have any archaeological impact. No archaeological mitigations required.  
INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

## CONTRIBUTORS

## NEIGHBOUR/THIRD PARTY RESPONSE SUMMARY

The application was advertised through the erection of a site notice and through direct neighbour notifications. No representations or objections were received.

## RELEVANT POLICIES

**Policy 1:** “*Appropriate Development in the National Park*” (Local Development Plan 2013)

**Policy 55:** “*Telecommunications*” (Local Development Plan 2013)

**Planning Policy Wales 7<sup>th</sup> Edition** (2014)

**Technical Advice Note (TAN) 19:** *Telecommunications* (2002)

## PLANNING HISTORY

App Ref	Description	Decision	Date
09/04297/FUL	Erection of 17.5 meter mast, 3 No antenna, 1 No transmission dish (0.6 meter in diameter), 6 No equipment cabinets and ancillary development within an 8 metre by 8.5 metre compound	Application Permitted	1st Mar 2010
14/11687/TEL	Proposed upgrade to base station installation at CTIL 124479, TEF 8035, VF 86483		9th Feb 2015

## OFFICER'S REPORT

This application was considered against the adopted policies of the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Local Development Plan (2013). In making a recommendation on this application, I have taken into consideration the relevant policies of the Development Plan and the comments made by the consultees and other interested parties and the following national guidance:

- o Planning Policy Wales (PPW, 2014)
- o Technical Advice Note 19: Telecommunications (2002)

## **Introduction**

The application seeks planning permission for the upgrade of an existing 17 metre column with a new dual user 17.5m monopole (to the top of the headframe), with the addition of 2 dish antennas and 3 antennas (non-dish). The proposal also includes the removal of an existing cabinet, with the inclusion of a proposed alifabs JSC cabinet.

The site is located within the community of Llanelly and is situated within open countryside as defined by the Brecon Beacons National Park Local Development Plan 2013(LDP).

## **Site Appraisal**

The application site is located at The Farmhouse, Ty Edmund, Church Road, to the west of the settlement of Gilwern. The site is accessed from Church Road, along an existing access track. The existing mast is within a field, directly adjacent to three residential properties.

## **Proposal**

The proposed replacement pole would measure at 15 metres to match the height of the existing structure (excluding the antennas); the antennas would measure at a height of 2 metres, representing a height of 17.5 metres. The width of the new pole would be 20 cm wider at ground level than the existing pole, narrowing to 10 cm wider than existing towards the top of the pole. The application includes the provision of 2 additional non-dish antennas, and the provision of 3 dish antennas; along with the removal of an existing cabinet, with the inclusion of a proposed alifabs JSC cabinet.

The 2 proposed additional non-dish antennas, along with the one existing non-dish antenna would be 2 metres in height at 15.5 metres to 17.5 metres from ground level, protruding above the pole and within the head frame. The 3 proposed dish antennas would be placed at 14.8 metres in height with the existing dish antenna being placed at the same height.

The existing Tef Celnet Cabinet at the base of the pole would be removed and replaced with a proposed Alifabs JSC cabinet to allow for pre-installation of fibre.

The development is required to facilitate the use of the site by both Vodafone and 02.

Policy 55 (Telecommunications) states that opportunities of shared use of existing mast should be taken. As the proposed pole would replace an existing mast pole it is considered that this would be making use of the existing systems and base as the principle of the development is already in place. It is also considered that, as the mast would use existing apparatus and platforms, the proposal would not have an unacceptable impact on its surroundings in terms of wildlife, natural beauty, cultural heritage or environmental resources.

## **Visual Amenity**

Policy I (i) aims to ensure that the scale, form, design, layout, intensity of use and use of materials will be appropriate to the surrounding and will maintain or enhance the quality and character of the Park's landscape and built environment.

The proposed upgrade to the existing telecommunications mast, will include a new pole and headframe, additional antennas, and the removal of a cabinet with the addition of a Alifabs JSC cabinet. It is considered that the proposal would not have a detrimental impact on the character and appearance of the area as the proposed pole would replace an existing mast, with an increase in height by 0.5 metres. The mast is located approximately 100 metres from Church Road and adjacent to an existing hedgerow which will help integrate the ground apparatus in the surroundings. Whilst the design is intended to meet functional needs, a simple monopole, although larger, is similar in appearance to a telegraph pole

and is considered the most appropriate for the location.

On balance it is considered that the proposal does not have an unacceptable impact on the special qualities and natural beauty of the National Park.

As such, the proposal would comply with Policy I of the LDP.

### **Neighbour Amenity**

The area is characterised by open countryside and a collection of dwellings and structures. As the proposed mast would replace an existing telecommunications mast it is considered that there would not be an unacceptable impact on the amenity of adjacent properties.

### **Highway Safety**

The mast is accessed by a track which connects to Church Road, Gilwern. The upgrades are within an existing compound and as the site is a fair way off the public highway it is expected that there will not be a significant increase in maintenance traffic post construction. Further to consultation with Monmouthshire County Council Highways Department, it is considered that the proposal would not have an impact on highway safety.

### **Health and Safety**

Technical Advice Note 19 'Telecommunications' (2002 (TAN19) states that 'Local Planning Authorities should not seek to replicate through the planning system controls under the health and safety regime. Enforcement of health and safety legislation in this area is a matter for the Health and Safety Executive'. TAN 19 states that it is a statutory requirement that planning permission for development involving the installation of one or more antennas 'need to be accompanied by a declaration that the equipment and installation, when constructed or installed, will operate in full compliance with International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) guidelines'.

In accordance with TAN 19, an ICNIRP Declaration has been provided with the application confirming that the site is designed to be in full compliance with the requirements of the radio frequency (RF) public exposure guidelines on the limitation of the general public to electromagnetic fields (0Hz to 300GHz).

### **Conclusion**

It is considered that the proposed upgrade and surrounding alterations to the telecommunications mast and associated equipment would not have a detrimental impact upon the character and appearance of the immediate or surrounding areas. As such the proposal complies with the relevant criteria of LDP policies I and 55 is thus recommended for approval, subject to conditions.

### **RECOMMENDATION: Permit**

#### **Conditions and/or Reasons:**

- 1 The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of five years from the date of this permission.
- 2 The development shall be carried out in all respects strictly in accordance with the approved plans (drawing nos. NP1v1, NP2v1, NP3v1 and NP4v1), unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

- 3 In the event of any of the equipment hereby permitted becoming redundant it shall be removed within three months of the last use of the equipment.
- 4 Prior to commencement the external finishing colour of the monopole and all ancillary structures shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Development shall be carried out in accordance with these approved details and maintained as such is perpetuity.
- 5 All equipment to be replaced as part of this upgrade (monopole and Tef celnet cabinet) shall be removed from the site within 1 month of the installation of the new apparatus.

**Reasons:**

- 1 Required to be imposed by Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 2 To ensure adherence to the approved plans in the interests of a satisfactory form of development.
- 3 In the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.
- 4 To ensure that the finishing colours harmonise with the surroundings.
- 5 In the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.

**Informative Notes:**

**Signed (Case Officer):**

Miss Kate Davies  
Planning Officer (DC)

  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 22/04/2015  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Checked (Principal Planner):**

  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 22.4.15  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Signed (National Park  
Authorised Officer):**

  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 22nd April '15  
\_\_\_\_\_

