PLANNING DEVELOPMENT CONTROL (TELECOMMUNICATIONS) SUB-COMMITTEE 14 April 2003

Attendance:

Councillors:

Bailey (Chairman) (P)

Baxter (P) Johnston (P)
Busher (P) Sutton (P)

Others in attendance:

Councillor Read (for minute # only)

Officers in Attendance:

Miss A Fettes (Senior Planner)

1. <u>0.8 METRE EXTENSION TO EXISTING 25 METRE ORANGE PCS LIMITED MAST AND INSTALATION OF AIRWAVE MMO2 ANTENNAE, DISHES AND EQUIPMENT CABINET – LAND OFF RUSHMERE LANE, DENMEAD.</u>

The Sub Committee met close to the application site at land off Rushmere Lane, Denmead.

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Councillor Read as a Ward Member and Mr Coates representing Hambledon Parish Council. Also present were two members of the public.

Miss Fettes explained that the Sub-Committee had been asked to consider a full planning application from Airwave MM02, to increase the height of the existing 25 metre high Orange mast by 0.8 metres, to accommodate an antennae and two dishes and to install additional equipment. The total height, to include the additional antennae, was to be approximately 29 metres. No representations had been received regarding the proposals from individuals, the AONB Council, nor the Council for the Protection of Rural England.

It was noted that the applicant had researched only this one site for their requirements, as they wished to minimise the impact on the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The existing mast was set against an edge of a wood with trees approximately 25 metres in height. Although the proposal was to extend the overall height just above the top of the tree line, the visual impact was considered as minimal.

Miss Fettes reminded Members that the applicant had been commissioned by the Home Office to provide a nationwide integrated communications service for the police and other public service organisations.

The Sub Committee proceeded to view the application site from further north in Rushmere Lane to get a better appreciation of the visual effect from the Hambledon (Rushmere Farm) direction.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr Coates addressed the meeting and requested that the proposed new cabin and preferably the existing one, be painted a suitable dull green colour so as to lessen their visual impact. Mr Coates and members of the public reminded the Sub Committee that the proposals were to be above the tree line and visible from public footpath to the north and Rushmere Lane.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Read also supported the painting of the equipment cabins a suitable colour and the introduction of planted landscaping around the compound perimeter.

In conclusion, Members supported the application on condition that the proposed cabin be painted a suitable dull green colour and that the officers negotiate with the applicant that the existing cabin and concrete fence posts also be painted, as they were visually intrusive. In addition, there should be landscaping around the compound perimeter.

RESOLVED:

That planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions:

- 1. 1FUL 1FULR
- 2. X060 X060R
- 3. L050 L050R
- The Cabin should be painted lvy Green BS12C39.

Reason: To improve the appearance of the site in the interests of visual amenity.

2. <u>15 METRE MONOPOLE WITH THREE ANTENNA AND DISHES - WESTERN</u> COURT FARM, BISHOPS SUTTON.

The Sub Committee met approximately 400 metres away from the application site at Appledown Lane opposite Tichborne Down.

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mr Jones from Waldon representing the applicant and Ms Webb representing Crown Castle International (owners of the mast structure). There were no members of the public present.

Introducing the proposals, Miss Fettes explained that the Sub Committee had been asked to consider a prior notification application for a 15 metre high monopole with three antennae, two 300-millimetre dishes and associated equipment cabin and compound. The proposals were in response to the refusal by the Sub Committee on 12 November 2002 to extend the existing mast in situ. The proposals were to be sited adjacent to the existing structure.

Miss Fettes explained that representation had been received from Bishop Sutton Parish Council regarding the proliferation of telecommunication masts, the proximity to Sunhill Infant School and questioned whether alternative sites had been fully investigated. In answer to questions, Miss Fettes explained that Sunhill Infant School was 450 metres away and that the School Governors had made no representation regarding the proposals. The nearest home was approximately 370 metres away in Sun Lane.

Members were satisfied that the mast would not be overly visually intrusive and was preferable to the earlier applications to extend the existing mast to gain the required coverage. The proposals were to be situated close by to the east of the existing mast and within its own compound.

In conclusion, Members agreed to approve the prior approval application on condition of further discussion with the applicant regarding additional landscaping and an appropriate dull green colour for the cabin and fencing.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That prior approval of the details of siting and appearance be given.
- 2. That the applicant be requested to investigate the painting of the cabinets and fencing.
- 3. That the applicant be requested to investigate additional landscaping.

3. EXTENSION OF EXISTING 28.5 METRE MAST TO 32 METRES, INSTALLATION OF THREE ANTENNAE, TWO DISHES AND RELOCATION OF EXISTING EQUIPMENT - LAND AT MANOR FARM, OFF ALRESFORD ROAD, WINCHESTER

The Sub Committee met at the application site and Miss Fettes explained that this was a full planning application for the extension of an existing 28.5 metre mast to 32 metres with the installation of three antennae, two dishes and the relocation of existing equipment, on land at Manor Farm, Alresford Road, Winchester.

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting, Mr Elliott from APT on behalf of Airwave MM02 Limited and Mr Bearl and Mr Moore from Airwave MM02 Limited. Also present was Mr Twelvetree from Itchen Valley Parish Council. There were no members of the public present.

Miss Fettes stated that the proposals would be clearly visible from the south, although was set amongst a group of trees forming part of Little Hampage Wood.

In answer to questions, Mr Bearl explained that the proposals would require a broader headframe on the structure and that most of the height gain was to be the three thin antennae.

Miss Fettes drew to the attention of the Sub Committee that although there were masts close by that may be suitable for mast share, they were located within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and that any extension of these would have significant visual impact.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr Twelvetree asked whether there would be significant signal loss should there be no overall height gain to the mast. In reply, Mr Bearl advised that existing user of the mast would lose some coverage and that there would be a deterioration of coverage at the periphery, which was unacceptable for the requirements of this application and the Airwave network as a whole.

In answer to questions regarding alternative siting, Mr Bearl explained to the Sub Committee why this specific site was preferable.

In conclusion, Members agreed to support prior notification application on condition that the cabin and concrete fence posts be painted a suitable dull green colour. The Chairman reminded the applicant that future applications must be supported by evidence of alternative siting of proposals.

RESOLVED:

That planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions:

- 1. 1FUL 1FULR
- 2. X060 X060R
- 3. The equipment cabin should be painted BS 12C39 Ivy Green.

Reason: To improve the appearance of the site in the interests of visual amenity.

The meeting commenced at 9.30am and concluded at 12.10pm

C Bailey Chairman