

# EAST BOLDON FORUM

## Planning application ST/0918/22/TPN - Telecommunications mast at Cleadon Lane

### Comments from East Boldon Neighbourhood Forum

1. The applicants/agents state that this mast is a replacement for the mast currently located on Cleadon Lane Industrial Estate (CLIE), which will be removed from the site following receipt of Notice to Quit documentation.

However, in a document submitted by Lichfields Associates in support of the recent planning application for the redevelopment of CLIE (Lichfields Response To Comments document, November 2022, paragraph 4.161), it is stated that "with regard to the existing telecoms mast on the site, the technology is now redundant and its removal would not impact upon the network provider or reception in the local area."

EBNF requests clarification from the Council about the need for alternative proposals.

2. This development is located within the Green Belt & a green infrastructure corridor and is therefore unacceptable in principle. In our pre-application comments to the applicant, we also made reference to the Council's Wildlife Corridors Review which confirmed the field as part of the Wildlife Corridor.
3. The site is located outside of the Settlement Boundary identified in the East Boldon Neighbourhood Plan. The proposal does not comply in general with the Neighbourhood Plan; or the Council's Core Strategy (2007) and Development Management Policies (2011) documents.
4. In addition to its Green Belt location, the 30m high mast, which contains 6 antenna & 4 dishes (and relevant equipment cabinets approx. 2 metres high, and 2.4 metre high security fencing, at ground level), will have a huge detrimental visual impact from all directions. However, should this proposal be ultimately considered for approval, it is essential that the visual impact of the development is softened at ground level, by means of appropriate landscaping, ie. hedging/shrubs, around the site perimeter, in order to hide the service cabinets and security fence.
5. The applicants in their submission make reference to recent planning appeals where they say inspectors decided that such "slender" masts would not result in any discernible loss of openness to the Green Belt. The Council will need to look closely at these.

**EBNF**  
**22.12.2022**