

Application No: N/99/01175/FUL
Date Registered: 7th September 1999
APPLICANT: MERCURY ONE 2 ONE
Agent: APT, Unit 64, Sir James Clark Building, Abbeymill Business Park, Paisley, PA1 1TJ
DEVELOPMENT: ERECTION OF A 18 METRE HIGH ANTENNA, MICROWAVE DISHES, CABIN, COMPOUND AND 2 METRE HIGH FENCE
LOCATION: SITE AT SOUTH DEERDYKES COURT, WESTFIELD, CUMBERNAULD
Ward No: 67
Grid: 272355 672397
File Reference: JR
Site History: None
Development Plan: Zoned IB 1,2 - 4 in the Cumbernauld Local Plan (Adopted) 1993
Contrary to Development Plan: No
CONSULTATIONS:
Objection:
No Objection: Health and Safety Executive, West of Scotland Water, Radio Communications Agency
No Reply:
Conditions: East of Scotland Water
REPRESENTATIONS:
Neighbours: No Response
Newspaper Advert: Not Required
COMMENTS: This application has been submitted for the erection of 18 m high antenna and associated works at a site on the junction of South Deerdykes Court/Deerdykes Road, Westfield, Cumbernauld.
My detailed observations on this proposal and on concerns raised by Cllr. W. Hogg are contained in the accompanying report. I would deem that this proposal is acceptable and recommend that planning permission be granted.
RECOMMENDATION: /

RECOMMENDATION: Grant permission subject to the following condition

1. That the development hereby permitted shall be started within five years of the date of the permission

Reason: To accord with the provisions of the Town and Country (Planning) Scotland Act 1997.

2. That prior to the development hereby permitted being started, full details of all existing landscape to be removed and details of the protection methods for the remaining landscaping shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenity of the Westfield Industrial Area.

3. That the methods of landscape protection agreed under Condition 2 above shall be installed prior to construction work being started, and maintained on site for the entire construction period.

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenity of the Westfield Industrial Area.

4. That prior to the development hereby being started, a scheme of landscaping, including boundary treatment(s) shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority and it shall include:-

(a) details of any earth moulding, grass seeding and turfing

(b) a scheme of tree and shrub planting, incorporating details of the number variety and size of trees and shrubs to be planted.

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenity of the Westfield Industrial Area.

5. That within three months of the completion of the development hereby permitted, all seeding, turfing earth moulding and boundary treatments approved under the terms of Condition 4 above shall be completed and any trees, shrubs or grass areas which die, are removed, damaged or become diseased within eighteen months of the completion of the development, shall be replaced within the next planting season with others of a similar size and species.

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenity of the Westfield Industrial Area.

List of Background Papers:

Application Forms and Plans

Cumbernauld Local Plan

Correspondence from APT dated 8 October 1999

Consultation response from the Health and Safety Executive dated 5th October 1999

Consultation response from Radio Communications Agency dated 22 September 1999

Consultation response from West of Scotland Water dated 22 September 1999

Consultation response from East of Scotland Water dated 20 September 1999

Any person wishing to inspect these documents should contact Jim Ravey on 01236-616479

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1. SITE AND PROPOSAL

1.1 This application has been submitted by APT, on behalf of Mercury One 2 One, for the erection of a 18 metre high telecommunications mast which will be "topped" with three 1.8 m high cross polar antennae and two 300 mm microwave dishes. The development will also incorporate a 3 m high equipment cabin and a 2 m high chainlink fence. The application site is located at the junction of Deerdykes Road, the major distributor serving this area of the Westfield Industrial Estate, and Deerdykes Court, a local access spur. The Westfield Industrial Estate lies on the western boundary of Cumbernauld and has excellent access to the A80. The estate provides a wide range of speculatively built industrial units, serviced industrial land, manufacturing plant and warehouse distribution.

1.2 The site is currently zoned

"IB 1, 2-4 :- Existing Industrial/Business areas to be retained"

in the Cumbernauld Local Plan (Adopted) 1993. The proposed development does not conflict with the policies contained within said Plan.

2. CONSULTATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

2.1 Neighbour notification has generated no adverse responses.

2.2 Councillor W. Hogg telephoned my Department requesting the following be considered:-

a) The proximity of another telecommunications pole some 220 m to the north east would offer an opportunity to this company to share the pole in place.

b) Due to the proximity of the existing pole, the location of this telecommunications antenna could create "hot spots" which would affect the operations of the adjacent Air Products manufacturing process.

3. OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSION

3.1 The proposed location within an industrial estate can be viewed as being the most appropriate location for this type of development. The range and style of architecture of the adjacent factory units and manufacturing plant can accommodate the siting of a telecommunications mast and associated plant as not to be detrimental to the visual amenity of the area.

3.2 In order to address the points raised by Councillor Hogg I can advise the Committee that I have contacted the applicants and the adjacent telecommunications operator who has installed the existing antenna. I also contacted the Health and Safety Executive with a specific query regarding the potential of two antenna to create "hot spots" and the possible implications on the adjacent Air Products manufacturing facility.

3.3/

- 3.3 The agent for the applicant has advised me that it is standard practice for Mercury One 2 One to investigate the possibility of mast sharing with adjacent suitable antenna. In this instance the existing adjacent mast would be required to be raised to 20 m to accommodate the plant required by Mercury. However the coverage provided by the shared mast would be inadequate and would more than likely involve the siting of a further antenna.
- 3.4 The Health and Safety Executive have replied that there are no reasons on major hazard grounds for advising against the granting of planning permission in this case.
- 3.5 There is currently a perception amongst sections of the public that there are certain health issues associated with proposals for telecommunication masts, antennae's and their associated Electro Magnetic Fields (E.M.F. 's). Strictly speaking, health considerations in cases such as this are a matter outwith the scope of planning control and should be dealt with by the Health and Safety Executive.
- 3.6 The National Radiological Protection Board (N.R.P.B.) is the Government's Statutory advisor on radiological protection matters. It sets out guidance limiting exposure to E.M.F.'s and current advice from Central Government is that so long as the guidelines are adhered to, there is no proven risk to health from such developments.
- 3.7 Given that the proposal is not considered to be detrimental to the amenity of the area, and that there has been no objections submitted, it is recommend that planning permission be granted.