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PENTYRCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL



CYNGOR CYMUNED PENTYRCH

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PCC welcomes attendance at its online meetings. The link to the Microsoft Teams meeting is on each Agenda.

Minutes of the Planning Committee held at 10:30am, August 24 2021 online via Microsoft Teams

Present: Cllrs Karen Thomas, John Harrison, Mike Sherwood, Stuart Thomas, Ian Jones

In attendance: Cllr Gary Dixon; Deb Hunt, PCC Community Engagement Officer

Members of the public: David Davies; Mike Colley – residents of Pentyrch

In attendance: Helena Fox, Clerk

- 1. To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr Simon Roberts
- 2. To receive any declarations of interest:** There were none
- 3. Public and press session:** there were none

Mr Davies addressed the meeting. He thanked PCC for sharing the information on social media. The proposed mast will be directly in front of Mr Davies' house and while he understands the need for masts, there is visual intrusion from the proposed site. The proposed green space has some existing plans for community use and its loss would be detrimental to the community feel. The grass verge a little further up the road would be better. 15m is double the height of a lamppost and the developer's documents do not give the most accurate view of the visual impact: a plan elevation with the shops in background would be more accurate. Mr Davies has excellent 5G reception at his property.

Two other residents had submitted comments by email which had been circulated to PCC Members in advance:

One:

We have been made aware of planning permission to erect a 15 metre-high 5G mast outside our house in the middle of the village, and would like to contest the planning application. We cannot unfortunately attend the online meeting on August 24th as we will be away.

My family and I wish to make our objections known, and they are namely:

- the mast would be erected in the heart of the village where our kids regularly cross the road; and will be catching the school bus from the bus stop directly opposite, and would be an added obstruction on what is a busy main road and nasty bend already.*
- it will be unsightly and placed directly opposite my property.*
- there are, as yet un-proven but suspected, health implications from being so close to electromagnetic radiation, and as a cancer survivor this concerns me greatly and poses a real threat not only to me but to my family.*
- Another concern is should I wish to sell my property at some point, having a 15 metre-high mast outside the gate will put a lot of people off.*

Can the mast not go to a less conspicuous place where it will not be in sight and away from people's homes?

Two:

I would like to register my opposition to the proposed siting of this mast which would be obtrusive and out of keeping in this location, particularly because of the height of the mast and the number of cabinets required. Surely the Lewis arms car park would be a better location and more visually acceptable?

4. To consider and decide on responses to planning applications:

CDF17683 – PLANNING PRE-CONSULTATION ENQUIRY IN RESPECT OF APPLICATION FOR PRIOR APPROVAL FOR PROPOSED 5G (FIFTH GENERATION) TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT:
Proposed 15 metre street works mast located on area of existing verge, located off HEOL Y PENTRE, PENTYRCH, GWAELOD-Y-GARTH, CARDIFF, CF15 9PW

Cllr K Thomas clarified that masts up to 25m do not need planning consent but the local planning authority has to be informed. If there are no issues, the developer does not need formal planning consent to continue installation.

There is only one only opportunity to make a comment on the proposed 5G mast in Pentyrch and the public will have no further opportunity to comment. Comments can only be made to the developer and not to Cardiff. PCC is thus not constrained by material planning matters only.

There followed a lengthy discussion which covered the following issues: proposed location; mitigations if the proposed location prevails; possible alternate sites; previous mast applications on Mountain Road and Pentyrch Rugby Club; the visual intrusion of the mast and its cabinets in the village centre; road traffic safety; new national regulations that make telecoms masts easier to install; site ownership;

PCC Members reported their own opposition to the proposed site and the opposition of residents they had spoken with.

It was generally accepted that better mobile signal is needed in both Creigiau and Pentyrch.

It was RESOLVED that PCC respond to the developers as follows:

PCC is concerned about:

- the proposed location in the village centre
- the visual impact of mast and cabinets on the village centre
- mast equipment causing a traffic hazard through the loss of the visibility splay on a busy junction with bus stops, including school bus stops, on both sides
- the visual impact for neighbouring properties

PCC will ask the developers for:

- more information on alternate sites and whether any of those would have less impact on the village
- whether sites further away in village have been considered.

The Clerk will draft a response letter and circulate to Cllr K Thomas, M Sherwood and J Harrison before sending. It will be copied to Cardiff Development Control and Cllr Gavin Hill-John.

Cllr K Thomas closed the meeting at 11:23am

Date of the next meeting: Wednesday September 1 2021 at 11am.

Signed _____ Dated September 20 2021