

Application ref: 2021/5869/P
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Date: 22 April 2022

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Sitec Infrastructure Services Ltd
8200 Cambridge Research Park
Beach Drive, Waterbeach
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Dear Sir/Madam

DECISION

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Prior Approval Required - Approval Given

Address:
Highways Land at Fortress Walk
London
Kentish Town
NW5 1NT

Proposal: Installation of microcell pole 6m in height with 2 microcell antennas at Fortress Walk.

Drawing Nos: 101, 200, 202, 300, 400A, Site Specific Supplementary Information, General Background Information for Telecommunications Development, ICNIRP declaration and clarification statement and covering letter commissioned by Cornerstone dated 30.11.2021.

The Council has considered your application for prior approval of siting and appearance in respect of the telecommunications equipment described above and hereby determines that prior approval is required and **gives approval**.

Condition(s) and Reason(s):

- 1 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans: 101, 200, 202, 300, 400A, Site Specific Supplementary Information, General Background Information for Telecommunications Development, ICNIRP declaration and clarification statement and covering letter commissioned by Cornerstone dated 30.11.2021.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interest of proper planning.

- 2 The apparatus hereby approved shall be removed from the building as soon as reasonably practicable when no longer required.

Reason: In order to minimize the impact on the appearance of the building and local environment in accordance with the requirements of Policies D1 of the London Borough of Camden Local Plan 2017.

- 3 The colour of the proposed microwave antenna shall match as closely as possible the existing lamp posts. The supporting mount shall be designed to be as unobtrusive as possible, and should be painted the same colour as the antenna.

Reason: In order to minimize the impact on the appearance of the building and local environment in accordance with the requirements of Policies D1 of the London Borough of Camden Local Plan 2017.

Informative(s):

- 1 Reasons for granting

The National Planning Policy Framework (the Framework) sets out that a sequential approach should be taken to the provision of telecommunications equipment, with mast and site sharing considered first, followed by existing buildings and structures, and finally ground-based installations. The agent indicates that the site represents the most suitable location for the monopole from an operational standpoint, given the need to fit into the existing network of cells and provide continuous coverage.

The scheme is assessed only for its acceptability in siting and appearance. The proposed mast is being shared by 2 mobile phone operators (Cornerstone and Telefonica) and is intended to provide reception to these services and users within the Kentish Town area. The chosen site is the only one that will provide this specific coverage adequately. It is therefore considered that there is sufficient justification for this mast in this location. The sharing of telecom equipment on one mast to reduce clutter is welcomed here.

The mast is a simple straight 6m high monopole resembling a telegraph pole and will not look out of place as another item of street furniture amongst other lampposts in the locality. It should be painted black to match other poles and the mast will not have a harmful impact on the character of the overall streetscene and open space here nor on the setting of the adjoining buildings. Moreover, there are lampposts located along Fortress Walk which are approximately 8-10m in height. All these elements help to place the microcell pole in context, within what is predominantly a highways environment. Alternative sites were also considered; however, these were discounted for reasons including a lack of space or potential harm to heritage assets.

The TfL Streetscape Guidance (4th Edition, 2019) recommends a pavement

width of two metres which would be achieved here, and as such, there would be no harm to pedestrian flow or local transport infrastructure. There will be no impact on any surrounding amenities and in particular there would be no loss of outlook to neighbouring residents.

One objection was received which suggested that the submission is invalid as the application address is incorrect and Fortress Walk does not exist. Officers have reviewed the submitted documents and address and confirm it is correct.

The planning history of the site has been taken into account when coming to this decision.

As such, the proposed development is in general accordance with policies A1, C6, D1, G1 and T1 of the Camden Local Plan 2017, the Kentish Town Neighbourhood Plan 2016, the London Plan 2021 and the National Planning Policy Framework 2021.

- 2 You are advised that the electronic communications monopole hereby approved should be maintained in good condition for as long as they remain in place.
- 3 You are reminded of the need to ensure that the apparatus shall be removed as soon as reasonably practicable when no longer required, in accordance with condition A.2(2) of Part 24 of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order (as amended).
- 4 All works should be conducted in accordance with the Camden Minimum Requirements - a copy is available on the Council's website (search for 'Camden Minimum Requirements' at www.camden.gov.uk) or contact the Council's Noise and Licensing Enforcement Team, 5 Pancras Square c/o Town Hall, Judd Street London WC1H 9JE (Tel. No. 020 7974 4444)

Noise from demolition and construction works is subject to control under the Control of Pollution Act 1974. You must carry out any building works that can be heard at the boundary of the site only between 08.00 and 18.00 hours Monday to Friday and 08.00 to 13.00 on Saturday and not at all on Sundays and Public Holidays. You must secure the approval of the Council's Noise and Licensing Enforcement Team prior to undertaking such activities outside these hours.

In dealing with the application, the Council has sought to work with the applicant in a positive and proactive way in accordance with paragraph 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2021.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DRP', is written over a light blue rectangular stamp.

Daniel Pope
Chief Planning Officer