



**MINUTES OF TELECOMMS COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 21ST MARCH 2022 AT 7.30PM.**

- 58/22** **Those Present:** Councillors: B Swan (Chair) and K Lamb.
Non-Council members: C Stanyon, C Winn, S Winter, C Norman, CC Stevens, CJ Stevens and 1 member of the public. In the absence of the Clerk the minutes were taken by Cllr Swan.
- 59/22** **To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), Other significant Interests (OSI's) or a voluntary interest relating to items on the agenda.**
None were declared.
- 60/22** **Pre-application consultation for proposed base station installation at CTIL_30038300, Elham Pumping Station, Bereforstal Hill, Elham, Kent CT4 6XJ, NGR E:617250 N:142494**

Cllr Lamb clarified that it was **agreed** by Elham Parish Council in May 2021 that the Telecomms Committee would be set aside until such time that future applications were received and then it would reconvene.

Cllr Lamb confirmed to the committee that the terms of reference, agreed to by all committee members, allowed the committee to scrutinise pre-planning and planning consultations received from telecomms providers and present its findings and recommendations to the parish council. However, it was not the job of the telecoms committee to actively seek potential locations for telecomms masts / equipment, nor lobby telecoms providers to erect masts. This is already being carried out by the local private group Connect Elham

The view of the Committee was:

The detail in the pre-planning consultation received was inadequate for the Committee to form a comprehensive decision. Although a lot of detail was provided there were key items missing such as coverage maps that would enable the committee to gauge what benefit the parish will derive from this equipment.

Recommendations of the committee:

Elham Parish Council are to request further information from Clarke Telecom to enable us to properly consider the proposal. Additional information to be requested:

1. Coverage maps for the proposed design
2. Justification for the proposed location. ie We note that all the suggested locations are in the valley floor. Is this for reasons of economy? (i.e., close

to power and roadside) or were these locations chosen to provide the best coverage? Other providers appear to have all investigated elevated sites

3. Is a lattice mast, and of that height, the only option?
4. Has the Kent Downs AONB unit been consulted on this proposal?
5. Will Clarke Telecom allow mast sharing?
6. Elham Parish Council are to advise Folkestone & Hythe District Council, that in their opinion, a decision on this application should be deferred until consultees have received adequate responses sufficient to allow proper scrutiny of the proposal.

61/22 Close

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10 pm.