

PLANNING REF : 251385
PROPERTY ADDRESS : Knowlands
: Nelsons Lane, Hurst, Reading, Berkshire
: RG100RR
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Nick Watts
DATE SUBMITTED : 28/09/2025

COMMENTS:

I am writing to formally object to planning application 251385 concerning the erection of two lattice telecommunication masts with receiver antennae and associated infrastructure on the land adjacent to Phoenix Park, Nelson's Lane.

Grounds for Objection:

Visual Impact and Character of the Area:

The proposed masts, due to their height and industrial design, would be visually intrusive and out of character with the surrounding residential and green spaces. The structures, in addition to the existing telephone masts would dominate the skyline, detracting from the area's aesthetic appeal. A similar case in Bradford (Whetley Hill, January 2025) was rejected due to its proximity to existing masts. I see this as materially the same as the proximity of these proposed masts to the current telephone masts. These masts would be visible both from our garden, the street at the front of the house and the house itself and therefore have a negative impact on the well-being of my family and other residents who value the current landscape. Not only that, we would be extremely concerned that it would have a negative impact on the value of our property, and that of other residents.

Proximity to Residential Areas and Public Spaces:

The location is in relatively close proximity to our home as well as other homes in the area. We and other people who use the footpaths in the area value the space and natural beauty and the presence of large telecommunication structures would lead to a sense of enclosure and may deter the use of the area for walkers, impact community cohesion and, as I have said, devalue the properties in the area.

Environmental and Ecological Concerns:

The installation may lead to habitat loss for local wildlife. Additionally, the construction and maintenance activities could disrupt local ecosystems, contrary to the council's commitment to environmental preservation. We enjoy a multitude of wildlife in the area including foxes, badgers, owls, deer, bats, rabbits and numerous other birds. Disturbing the habitats of these animals would be tragic. We also get a lot of ground water in the area, which can often be very significant. Further concrete foundations and man made structures may exacerbate this situation which could be extremely damaging for both the natural habitats, as well as the houses and working buildings which are already in place.

Alternative Site Considerations:

It is unclear whether alternative sites with less environmental and residential impact have been thoroughly investigated. Has the company seeking approval, or the council explored whether existing structures or less intrusive sites are feasible alternatives before considering these new masts? Similar structures proposed in

Ramsgate, Kent

(Stirling Way, appeal Feb 2024) were rejected due to a failure to meaningfully consider alternate sites and how the masts would harm the character and outlook of the area.

Safety Concerns: We would be concerned that there may be an increased risk of fires or impacts on electricity supplies. The presence of these large masts would also create anxiety and concern amongst my family and other residents which would result in stress and reduced quality of life

Given the potential negative impacts outlined above, I urge the council to reject this planning application. The preservation of our community's character, environmental integrity, and residents' well-being should take precedence over the proposed development.

Thank you for considering my objections.