APPLICATION NO:
TL/2002/5798

LOCATION:
Land At Junction Of Radcot Close & Western Avenue, Woodley Reading.

APPLICANT:
Orange PCSL C/O Patrick Farfan

PROPOSAL:
Proposed erection of 11.8m high free standi telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna.

EARLIEST DATE FOR DECISION: **24/02/2002**

APPLICATION WILL HAVE EXPIRED ON: 28/03/2002

RECEIVED

CASE OFFICER: **Heidi Lynch**

[illegible]

919
DO

R/A/I/L/E/X
Marbleboard

EASIFILE EP7

WOKINGHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS

REFUSAL OF PRIOR APPROVAL OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS NOTIFICATION

Orange PCS Ltd.
C/O Patrick Farfan Associates Ltd.
Salamander Quay West
Park Lane
Harefield
Middx.
UB9 6NZ

Notification No: *TL/2002/5798*

Parish: Woodley Town

Proposal: Erection of 11.8 metre high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna.

Location: Land at junction of Radcot Close and Western Avenue, Woodley, Reading.

The Wokingham District Council in pursuance of their powers under Part 24 of the Town and Country (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) Order 1998 **REFUSES** prior approval for the above stated telecommunications equipment, the reason for which are specified hereunder.

Reason:

1. The proposed telecommunications equipment, due to its height and bulk, is unacceptable as it would result in an adverse impact on the visual amenities of the surrounding residential area.

T E Watson

Development Control Manager

Date: 12 March 2002

TW Recorded on Respond LM00902

PLANNING SERVICES	MPT
POL	TLS
DC AH	RNF
APP	
CS 54697	
27 MAR 2002	
COPIES TO	ACK:
	FILE:

Mr & Mrs MD Breach
63 Western Avenue
WOODLEY
Berks RG5 3BL

File

21 February 2002

Wokingham District Council
Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham RG40 1WR

Ref. Application TL/2002/5798 - Erection of Telecommunication Column

Dear Mr Watson

Thank you for your letter informing us that the application for the erection of a telecommunication mast at the junction of Westerm Avenue & Radcot Close, has been refused.

We are very pleased that the local authority has taken into account the views of the local residents, and has made a decision that has met with our approval. However, should Orange not accept your decision and decide to take their application to appeal, we hope that you will continue to support your original decision and not permit a mast to be built.

Also, we hope that by the refusal of the application for the mast to be sited in this location, you will not then allow further applications for sites in other parts of Western Avenue. There was a very strong body of residents who attended the Woodley Town Council meeting to show their disapproval and objections, and we are certain that you would again meet with the same opposition.

However, thank you for the current decision and we hope that we do not need to voice our objections again.

Yours sincerely

M.D. Breach
G.S. Breach

Mr MD & Mrs GS BREACH

Application TR/2002/5798 0844 Radcot Close

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
PCL	TLS
CC HK	ENF
APP	
CS	

14 MAR 2002

COPIES TO

Woodley
RG5 3BG.
13.03.02.

Dear Ms Ly

I would like you to know that we strongly disapprove of the plan to erect a 11.8m. high free standing telecommunications mast at the junction of Radcot Close & Western Avenue.

The strength of anti feelings was shown at the meeting on 05 March which you were obviously too busy to attend. We the residents pay a considerable sum to the Local Council & it does give or should give us the right to have input on important issues. The meeting on the 28th March has been cancelled but please do not make a decision without the residences input.

Yours sincerely
Maureen Ind.

AC

Your Ref: TL/2002/5798

14 Warren Road,
Woodley,
Reading RG5 3AP

Date: 11 March 2002

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
POL	TLS
DC HL	ENF
APP	
13 MAR 2002	
COPIES TO	ACK: ✓
	FILE:

Head of Planning & Transportation,
Environmental Services Dept.,
Planning Services,
Wokingham District Council,
P.O.Box 157,
Shute End,
Wokingham RG40 1WR

Dear Ms.Cronin,

Planning Application TL/2002/5798

We have already written to you (09.02.02) opposing the above Planning Application, on grounds of visual intrusion and safety, and these objections still stand. However we have now learned that the Application is not to go to Committee on 28th.March as previously advised by Woodley Town Council, but is to be determined by your Officers on or before that date.

If this is true, we must express great concern that no-one from Wokingham District Council Planning Services attended the meeting of Woodley Town Council on Tuesday 5th.March 2002. We were told you had been invited. Around 200 local residents were present and vigorously expressed their opposition to the proposal. If you too had been there you would have been left in no, doubt whatsoever about the strength of local opinion, and you would have heard the arguments and ideas put forward.

Chairperson Cllr.Jewel undertook to arrange a public meeting at Coronation Hall, with formal representation from Wokingham Planning Services and I trust this will be done before any decision is made regarding the Planning Application - it seems hardly now possible to organise such a meeting with proper advance notice before 28th.March !

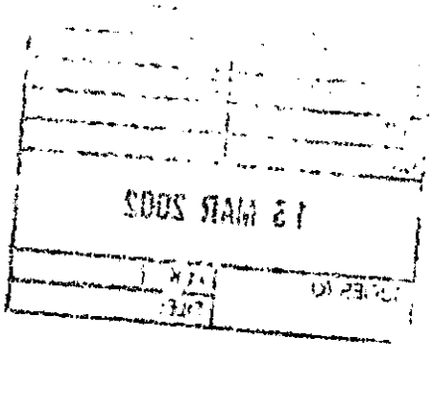
There is no point in repeating the arguments against the mast in this letter, which is merely intended as a reminder that such an emotive issue should not be dealt with in a summary way, and to emphasise that you are dealing with a very large and well-informed body of public opinion in the area, which is strongly against the proposal. Wokingham District Council would be well advised to permit the widest possible public consultation by public meeting, and to listen to residents, which most certainly you have not yet done (by missing the Town Council Meeting on 5th.March), before making any decision.

Yours sincerely,

J.G. Tidmarsh J. Tidmarsh

Mr.& Mrs.J.G.Tidmarsh

Copied to Woodley Town Council



OBP

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
PO:	TLS
DC	ENF
AMP	
OS	
13 MAR 2002	
COPIES TO	ACK: ✓
	FILE:

1, Warren Road
WOODLEY
Berks
RG5 3AP

☎/fax 0118 969 0809
Email ritagul@aol.com

12 March, 2002

Ms Heidi Lynch
Wokingham Unitary
Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
WOKINGHAM
RG40 1WR

TW/2002/5798

Dear Ms. Lynch,

Proposed Orange mast at Western Avenue, Woodley

I understand that a decision is to be taken on Orange's application for planning permission on 28 March, and that it is to be made by you.

I should like to point out the amount of local opposition to this proposal, which was expressed very strongly at a meeting last week when hundreds of people attended a meeting - so many that some had to listen from outside the hall.

The general feeling is quite simple : **we do not want this mast**, and have suggested a very viable alternative of erecting a mast on the roof of the present Woodley Town Hall in the centre of Woodford Park. This would be a reasonable distance from homes and St. Dominic Savio school.

There is also the very strong point that in 1966 a group of 5 residents bought the strip of land on which the mast is proposed, and they claim that they bought the land right up to the pavement.

Please bear in mind our feelings when making your decision. Frankly, if this mast is erected, then local democracy has died.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) Rita Gulliver

Ms Helen Lynch
Woking Borough Council
Planning Services
PO Box 127
Civic Offices
Gloucester Square
WOKING
GU21 6YL

12 March 2002

Dear Ms. Lynch,

Proposed Orange Mast at 1 Vyes Park Avenue, Woodley

I understand that a decision is to be taken on Orange's application for planning permission on 26 March, and that it is to be made by you.

I should like to point out the amount of local opposition to this proposal, which was expressed very strongly at a meeting last week when hundreds of people attended a meeting - so many that some had to listen from outside the hall.

The general feeling is quite simple - we do not want this mast, and have suggested a very viable alternative of erecting a mast on the roof of the present Woodley Town Hall in the centre of Woodley. This would be a reasonable distance from homes and St. Dominic Savio school.

There is also the very strong worry that it "is a group of 3 residents bought the strip of land on which the mast is proposed, and they claim that they bought the land right up to the pavement.

Please bear in mind our feelings when making your decision. Frankly, if this mast is erected, the local democracy has failed.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) Sian Oliver

lipop lady Leigh-Ann Carville and policeman Samuel Kirke. 027791

d car
rong
itions
oad

nursery, said: "The day was all about teaching the children the Green Cross code and being aware of road safety. They acted out different parts and practised using a pretend crossing. It was great."

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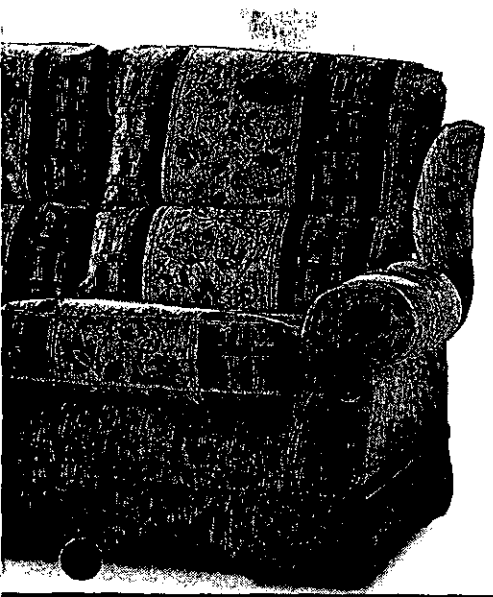

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IMMEDIATE

ple now come up to us and say it's nice to see officers on patrol, so we know it is working.

"We specifically looked at the station and cinema because our crime munications supply to solve crime and disorder, so we must work hard with people to drive out crime in areas with support from the community."

Cautious welcome for phone mast refusal

WOODLEY families are delighted after a planning officer vetoed proposals for a mobile phone mast outside their homes – but they say they will remain vigilant.

Residents mobilised a military-style campaign to get the Orange mast proposal for Western Avenue thrown out by gathering petitions, writing to MPs, and attending planning meetings in force.

Around 150 people crammed into Woodley Town Council offices in Woodford Park to protest at the plans and hear a presentation from the telecommunications firm last week.

Families' fears were not allayed because the application fell between planning committee dates, and had to be decided by a lone council officer.

But they were overjoyed on Tuesday when he announced he had rejected the proposal.

Jill Lipton, of Western Avenue, said the news was "a great first step", but added she has mixed feelings at the outcome because Orange could still appeal against the refusal.

"The officer came to the right decision as there was no way the mast could have fitted in with the other street furniture."

"The response from the local people was reassuring but you can never feel really confident once the mobile phone companies have looked at an area, and it's now important that everyone keeps an eye out for these things."

A Wokingham District Council spokesman said: "The application for the phone mast has been refused on the grounds of its height and bulk being unacceptable, as this would result in an adverse impact on the visual amenities of the surrounding residential area."

Reading's closed circuit television cameras bring arrest tally to 2,000

READING police have reached a landmark after making their 2,000th arrest using CCTV cameras.

Officers used the hi-tech monitoring system after a 15-year-old boy was assaulted and hit in the face with a brick, at around 3pm on March 7.

Camera operators scoured the scene for his four attackers after the incident in Northumberland Avenue, Whitley, and spotted two of the youths hiding in a garden.

Patrol cars were directed back to the house and the pair were grabbed, while the other two attackers were arrested later that day.

Sergeant Shaun Underhill said: "Since the installation of the first CCTV cameras in Reading more than six years ago, the system has gone from strength to strength.

"These cameras are a vital tool in the fight against crime as these arrests and the recent conviction at crown court of the murderer of Scott Davis show."

Artistic talent pays off for schoolgirl

ALDERMASTON schoolgirl Naomi Wardle is the envy of her classmates after scooping a top prize in a Disney competition.

The nine-year-old, from Cedars School, won herself a DVD player and a DVD version of the classic film *Peter Pan*, in the Disney Best Friend Competition.

Naomi chose Peter Pan as her best friend and drew him in crayon flying through the air.

And her artwork also won the school a DVD player and copies of the *Emperor's New Groove* for each child in her class.

Exchange of ideas on language learning

READING University is to host a conference on language learning between the UK and Japan.

It will include an exchange of views between British and Japanese people regarding language learning and teaching, and will compare the countries' different approaches.

The conference runs from 9am-6pm on March 25, and will be held at the Whiteknights campus.

It costs £15 per person including lunch.

● **Contact** Dr Asako Yamamoto on 0118 987 5123 ext 4426 or e-mail yamamoto@reading.ac.uk

Man faces drug charges after house raid

A 23-YEAR-OLD man will appear before Reading magistrates on Monday charged with possessing drugs with intent to supply after police

Andrew Coaker, of Cranborne Gardens, Tilehurst, was arrested in January when officers seized

TO FILE: TL/2002/5798.

Phone: (0118) 974 6428
E-mail: Ian.Jordan@wokingham.gov.uk
Date: 15 March, 2002

Your Ref:

My Ref: Ian Jordan – TL/2002/5798

Mr T Denby
28 Radcot Close
Woodley
Reading
Berks
RG5 3BG

Environmental Services Department
Planning Services
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR
Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Fax: (0118) 974 6484
Minicom No: (0118) 974 6991
DX: 33506 – Wokingham

Dear Mr Denby

Re: TL/2002/5798 - Proposed telecommunications mast at junction of Radcot Close & Western Avenue.

Thank you for your letter dated 12th March, 2002 regarding the above mentioned application.

Unfortunately, I am a little confused as to which planning meeting this application was due to be discussed at as none are scheduled for 28th March and the application was also refused permission on 12th March.

A letter informing you of the Councils decision was issued on 13th March, 2002 but in case you haven't received this I enclose a copy of the decision notice issued to Orange Ltd.

Should you have any further questions regarding this matter please contact me on (0118) 974 6428.

Yours Sincerely

Mr I Jordan
Principal Planning Services Officer

28 Radcot Close
Woodley
Reading
Berks
RG5 3BG
home: 0118 969 8902

Rec'd by

PLANNING SERVICES	HT 54307
POL	TLS
DC	ENF
APP	
CS	

15 MAR 2002

COPIES TO	ACK:
	FILE:

12th March 2002

Dear Ms Lynch,

Re: TL/2002/5798 Mobile Telephone Mast – Junction of Radcot Close & Western Avenue

I have recently been informed that the planning meeting at Wokingham District Council scheduled for 28th March will not be happening so I will not be able to voice my opposition to erecting a mobile telephone mast at the end of my road.

I recently attended a planning meeting at Woodley Town Council along with many other concerned local residents – I didn't count the attendees but would estimate at about 100 people. This attendance showed the strength of feeling against the siting of the mobile telephone mast – it would appear that Woodley Town Council had underestimated this response.

It was at this meeting we were told that Woodley Town Council had previously rejected having a mobile telephone mast sited on their council offices in Woodford Park. The vast majority of the meeting attendees felt this was the wrong decision and believed that siting the mast in Woodford Park with its itinerant population was preferable to siting it within metres of houses where residents will be exposed to mobile radiation for considerable periods of their day.

I believe there are sufficient grounds to oppose the mast on a purely aesthetic stance but in addition, I am also concerned about the health & safety aspect.

I fully realise that the harmful effects of mobile radiation have not yet been proven **but** neither have they been absolutely dismissed. I therefore believe that we should err on the side of caution and ensure that mobile masts are sited in places where they have the minimum effect on the maximum of residents – Woodford Park would therefore seem preferable to residential streets.

An additional concern is that once these masts have become established, there seems to be no restrictions on them growing and evolving in the future – what is a fairly small structure now could turn into a monstrosity in a few years time.

I would have thought that the primary concern of any Council or Unitary Authority is the welfare and contentment of its residents. In this case, it would appear that the commercial concerns of Orange come way before those of the residents. There are many other sites around Woodley that would offer alternatives to siting the mast close to residential buildings, indeed, Orange admitted this at the Woodley Town Council meeting. Alternative sites could include the already mentioned Woodford park, the waste ground adjacent to the railway near Western Avenue, the allotments near Reading Road.

I am really unhappy that in the democratic society we live in, I and other residents, are not being allowed to properly voice our objections and have the ability to oppose something that is impacting our lives and property in such a dramatic fashion.

Can you please let me know what other steps I can take to ensure my objections are properly heard and considered in this planning application.

Yours,



Terry Denby

10 Greenhaus

St. Pauls

WORK SHEET FOR : Heidi Lynch

Application Number : TL/2002/5798

Applicant : Orange PCSL C/O Patrick Farfan.

Location : Land At Junction Of Radcot Close &, Western Avenue, Woodley, Reading.

Proposal : Proposed erection of 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna.

Site Notice Displayed ? :	YES	NO	DATE
	.		.

Date of Neighbour Notifications : .....

Date of Site Visit : 01/03/02

Date Registered : 31/01/2002

Earliest Date for Decision : 24/02/2002

Latest Consultation Date/Site Notice Expiry Date : 24/02/2002

This application will have expired on: 28/03/2002. You need to make a decision 1 day prior to this date for this application to count as determined in less than 8 weeks.

Consultation Responses :

Surranding propety owners (148) concerns

Health concerns & should be precautionary Proximity to residential duties.
Unsightly, conspicuous position, higher than existing trees
Revaluation of propety adverse affect on amenity of area
Close to school
Ownership of land
Traffic issues as is located on road junction (maintenance issues), busy congested road at times

Planning Issues :

Refuse on traffic implications
Proximity to residents
view above trees to residents
approx 3.0m

Woodley Town Council - fully supported residents concerns

Propety - ownership issues of land

Environ. Health - no objections but comments re health risks & evidence

Highways - concerns about servicel/maintenance vehicles parking close to junction.

Application Number: TL/2002/5798

Appraisal :

See Notes

Recomendation : Approval: ☐ **Refusal:** ☑

(tick appropriate box)

Application Number TL/2002/5798
Conditions/Reasons for Refusal

No	Std Con	Std Reas	Non Std Conditions / Reasons for Refusal
1)			The proposed telecommunications equipment, due to its height and bulk, is considered to be unacceptable as it would result in an adverse impact on the visual amenities of the surrounding residential area.

RECORD OF SITE VISIT

SITE ADDRESS: Land At Junction Of Radcot Close & Western Avenue Woodley Reading.

APPLICATION NUMBER: TL/2002/5798

OFFICER: Heidi Lynch

DATE OF SITE VISIT: 01/03/02

1 SITE/STATUTORY NOTICE DISPLAYED ?

2. DESCRIPTION OF SURROUNDINGS

3. DESCRIPTION OF SITE/BUILDING

4. RELATIONSHIP TO ADJOINING PROPERTIES

5. SITE CONSTRAINTS

TREES

ACCESS/PARKING

LEVELS

BOUNDARY TREATMENT

OTHERS

On junction of road, backdrop of trees although it will be higher than these. Will be seen from residents at rear of tree bank

Trevor Watson

From: Andrew Lowther
Sent: 12 March, 2002 10:43 AM
To: Trevor Watson
Cc: Jane Earl; Anna Cronin; Kevin Jacob; 'coling lawley@aol.com'; 'alan spratling@wokingham.gov.uk'; MalvernK@plcbrk.siemens.co.uk; C.A.Jewell@reading.ac.uk
Subject: Telecomms mast, Western Avenue, Woodley

Trevor

Following discussions which I have had with Coling Lawley, I am confirming that, on your assurance that you will be refusing this 'application' within the statutory period (by 28 March 2002), then the request by the Leader of the Council to have the matter referred to Development Control Committee on Wednesday evening need not be acted upon.

Andrew Lowther
Members' Services Manager
Policy & Members' Services Unit
Wokingham District Council
Tel: 0118 9746051
Fax: 0118 9746057
andrew.lowther@wokingham.gov.uk
www.wokingham.gov.uk

URGENT

Heidi Lynch

From: Anna Cronin
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2002 1:00 PM
To: Hazel Robinson
Cc: Heidi Lynch; Trevor Watson
Subject: RE: Planning Application No: TL/2002/5798 Phone mast Radcot Close and Western Avenue Woodley

Hello Hazel,

Thanks for the email. Can I shed a bit more light on this. First of all, I knew nothing about the meeting. I am sure lots of thing go on in your department which the Head of Service is not aware of on a day to day basis! But that does not mean that the right people did not know. The invitation from Woodley Town Council was to Heidi Lynch, the case officer. *She could not attend. This was explained to Woodley.*

Subsequently Trevor Watson, the Development Control Manager, was asked if he could attend at short notice. Not surprisingly, he could not.

The issue of phone masts is very controversial, and not just in Woodley. Everyone wants the conveniece of mobile phones, and no-one wants the masts anywhere near them. In addition, there is government guidance on the planning issues which leaves us as a Council relatively little room for manoeuvre. It is true that we have not been successful at appeal recently, but I hope you can now understand that this is not the reason why we were not represented at the meeting.

Your written response will be taken into account when we decide the application.

If you have any more questions, you might wish to contact Trevor or Heidi.

Regards,

Anna

From: Hazel Robinson
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2002 8:46 AM
To: Anna Cronin
Cc: Heidi Lynch
Subject: Planning Application No: TL/2002/5798 Phone mast Radcot Close and Western Avenue Woodley

My house in Godstow Close Woodley, obviously does not lie within the radius of x00m which you used to apply your mail shot announcing the above planning application.
I was alerted to it by neighbours who had been informed by you.
I have sent you my written response which you acknowledged on 22.2.02.

Last night 5.3.02 I attended the Consultation Meeting held by Woodley Town Council in Woodford Park.
It was very well attended by local residents about 150.
Carole Jewell chaired it. Coling Lawley, Tom McCann and two Orange representatives were present.

However, myself and the majority of the public were disappointed that there was no representation from Wokingham District Council.
When I asked Carole about this she said you had been invited but had a previous engagement.

I understand that Wokingham is opposed to the erection of the majority of phone masts and have previously refused a lot of the applications. However we have always lost these when they have gone to appeal.
I wondered if perhaps that was the reason why no one attended as you realise that we are not going to succeed in *trying to oppose the applications.*

Hazel Robinson

Hazel Robinson
Research & Information Officer (Children's Services)
Community Services Department, *Strategy Team*
Wokingham District Council
Tel : 0118 974 6784
Fax : 0118 974 6770

Email : hazel.robinson@wokingham.gov.uk
www.wokingham.gov.uk

Patrick Farfan
ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Salamander Quay West
Park Lane
Harefield
Middlesex
UB9 6NZ

Tel +44 (0)1895 823700
Fax +44 (0)1895 821214
frog@patrickfarfan.com
www.patrickfarfan.com

Our Ref: *BRK7031*
Your Ref: *HL/MLT/TL/2002/5798*

PLANNING SERVICES | HPT 34067
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APP |
CS |
11 MAR 2002
COPIES TO | ADK
FILE

Heidi Lynch
Wokingham District Council,
PO Box No.157,
Shute End,
Wokingham,
Berkshire,
RG40 1WR.

8 March 2002

Dear Heidi

Re: Application TL/2002/5798
Proposed installation of Orange PCS Ltd Microcell BRK7031 at:
Northern Footway, Junc.Western Avenue/Radcot Close, Woodley, Berkshire, RG5 3BL.

Thank you for your correspondence of 5 March 2002, outlining the council's objection to the above development.

I can confirm that I am unable to revise the scheme or location away from residents with more screening at the present time.
As stated in the application, residential neighbourhoods are the very areas Orange are attempting to provide coverage to. Orange 3G Ltd has been licensed to provide and maintain a UMTS telecommunications service to an area where at least 80% of the population of the UK live by 31 December 2007.

The current proposal is situated against a natural hedge screening to approximately 8m. The location was finally determined on a site visit with Graham Barnwell PROW/NRSWA of Wokingham District Council. Potential traffic issues with respect to maintenance are unfounded. Maintenance should only be required a couple of visits throughout the year. BT have an adjacent installation which too would require maintenance visits as too would Wokingham District Council's street lights within 15m of the junction.

It is our intention to liaise with the planning authorities, and as identified in the letter of application; The applicants are aware of Local Plan policies relating to telecommunications, in particular WIC 14. There has, however, been concern in the manner in which this has been applied by your authority. Planning consultants acting for Orange have sought clarification but, unfortunately, replies to letters have not been forthcoming. Nevertheless, it is asserted that the proposal is in accord with the objectives of both your policies and those contained within the Structure Plan.

Although proximity to residential properties should not be an issue, given the degree of compliance with ICNIRP, by considerable factors, the applicants are aware of the sensitivity of this matter. Where practical, an attempt has been made to give a degree of separation. However, given the need to provide coverage to the urban areas, proximity to places occupied by people is inevitable. It should nevertheless be stressed that microcells operate at much lower power than macro base stations.

Patrick Farfan
ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Nevertheless, there remains an issue between the local residents claim on the land where the proposal is to be situated and Wokingham District Council, with respect to determining the extent of the adopted highway which both parties have yet to resolve.

After conducting investigations I am in agreement with Wokingham District Councils records that the land forms part of the adopted highway.

Orange have also met with town councilors and local residents to explain the processes of site selection and to address health and safety concerns. We are currently awaiting feed back from the meeting and are committed to delaying any further planning applications within Woodley until the feedback has been investigated for feasibility.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Neil Hodgson
Acquisition Consultant

Tel. 0118 974 6482 (Direct Line)
Fax. 0118 974 6484
Email. Heidi.lynch@wokingham.gov.uk
Date. 05 March 2002
My ref. HL/MLT/TL2002/5798
Your ref. BRK7031

Environmental Services Department
Planning Services
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR
Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Fax: (0118) 974 6484
Minicom No: (0118) 977 8909
DX: 33506 – Wokingham

Neil Hodgson
Patrick Farfan Associates Ltd
Salamander Quay West
Park Lane
Harefield
Middlesex
UB9 6NZ

Dear Mr Hodgson,

PROPOSED ERECTION OF 11.8M HIGH FREE STANDING TELECOMMUNICATIONS COLUMN WITH 1 OMNI DIRECTIONAL ANTENNA ON LAND AT JUNCTION OF RADCOT CLOSE AND WESTERN AVENUE, WOODLEY.

I refer to your notification for a 11.8m high free standing column with internally mounted antenna and associated equipment cabin.

I write to formally advise you that the Local Planning Authority requires prior approval of this scheme, in view of its potential visual impact upon the area, its proximity to residents and its location on a road junction (potential traffic issues with respect to maintenance).

I would be grateful if you could advise me in writing within seven days of this letter, if you are able to revise the scheme in favour of a different location away from the junction of Western Avenue and Radcot Close, further away from residential properties and with more screening.

Yours sincerely,

MLT

M L THORP
Principal Development Control Officer

* * * COMMUNICATION RESULT REPORT (5.MAR.2002 16:03) * * *

TTI WDC PLAN&TRANSPORT

FILE	MODE	OPTION	ADDRESS (GROUP)	RESULT	PAGE
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E-2) BUSY
E-3) NO ANSWER
E-4) NO FACSIMILE CONNECTION

WOKINGHAM UNITARY
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PLANNING SERVICES

Fax Cover Sheet

DATE: 05/03/02

TO: Neil Hodgson, Patrick Farfan Associates Ltd

FROM: Heidi Lynch **Planning Services.**

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS HEADER SHEET: 2

RECIPIENT FAX NUMBER: 01895 821214

OUR FAX NUMBER: (0118) 974 6484

SUBJECT: TL/2002/5798

NOTES: PRIOR APPROVAL NOTIFICATION
@ WESTERN AVE / RADCOT CLOSE

Letter posted 05/03/02

Tel. 0118 974 6482 (Direct Line)
Fax. 0118 974 6484
Email. Heidi.lynch@wokingham.gov.uk
Date. 05 March 2002
My ref. HL/MLT/TL2002/5798
Your ref. BRK7031

Environmental Services Department
Planning Services
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR
Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Fax: (0118) 974 6484
Minicom No: (0118) 977 8909
DX: 33506 – Wokingham

Neil Hodgson
Patrick Farfan Associates Ltd
Salamander Quay West
Park Lane
Harefield
Middlesex
UB9 6NZ

Dear Mr Hodgson,

PROPOSED ERECTION OF 11.8M HIGH FREE STANDING TELECOMMUNICATIONS COLUMN WITH 1 OMNI DIRECTIONAL ANTENNA ON LAND AT JUNCTION OF RADCOT CLOSE AND WESTERN AVENUE, WOODLEY.

I refer to your notification for a 11.8m high free standing column with internally mounted antenna and associated equipment cabin.

I write to formally advise you that the Local Planning Authority requires prior approval of this scheme, in view of its potential visual impact upon the area, its proximity to residents and its location on a road junction (potential traffic issues with respect to maintenance).

I would be grateful if you could advise me in writing within seven days of this letter, if you are able to revise the scheme in favour of a different location away from the junction of Western Avenue and Radcot Close, further away from residential properties and with more screening.

Yours sincerely,

MLT

M L THORP
Principal Development Control Officer

Patrick Farfan
ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Salamander Quay West
Park Lane
Harefield
Middx
UB9 6NZ
Tel – 01895 823700
Fax – 01895 821214

to:
HEIDI LYNCH
WOKINGHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL
0118 974 6484

from:
NEIL HODGSON
07855 960042

No. Of Pages: 3 (incl cover)

RE: TL 2002/5798 – Western Ave BRK7031 RADCOT.

Heidi

Please find enclosed letters confirming site visit with Graham Barnwell (PROW/NRSWA) and response.

Regards

Neil Hodgson

Tel: 0118 974 6333 (Direct Line) Fax. 0118 974 6313

Date: 29 January 2002

Your Ref: BRK7031

My Ref: GB/DF/NRSWA (20016163)

WOKINGHAM UNITARY
Aiming for Excellence

Environmental Services Department
Engineering Services
P.O. Box 153
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WL
Main Switchboard (0118) 974 6000
Minicom No: (0118) 974 6991
DX: 33506 – Wokingham

Mr N Hodgson – Acquisition Consultant
Patrick Farfan
Salamander Quay West
Park Lane
Harefield
Middlesex UB9 6NZ

Dear Neil

ORANGE PCS LTD MICROCELL BRK7031 WESTERN AVENUE

Thank you for your letter dated 17th January 2002.

I can confirm approval of the siting of column and cabinet as discussed on site.

Yours sincerely

Graham Barnwell
PROW/NRSWA Officer

PATRICK FARFAN ASSOCIATES LIMITED
DATE: 31.01.02 JOB NO: 7031
FOR: [illegible]
ACTION:
[illegible]

Patrick Farfan
ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Salamander Quay West
Park Lane
Harefield
Middlesex
UB9 6NZ

Tel +44 (0)1895 823700
Fax +44 (0)1895 821214
trog@patrickfarfan.com
www.patrickfarfan.com

Our Ref: *BRK7031*
Your Ref:

Mr Graham Barnwell
Engineering Services
Wokingham District Council,
PO Box No.153,
Shute End,
Wokingham,
Berkshire, RG40 1WL.

17 January 2002

Dear Graham

Proposed installation of Orange PCS Ltd Microcell BRK7031 at:
Junction Western Avenue/Radcot Close, Woodley, Berkshire, RG5 3BL.

Further to our meeting of Thursday 3 January 2002 and earlier correspondence, thank you for taking time to meet me and discuss the feasibility of proposed microcells around Woodley.

To confirm the site visit at the above location

Junction Western Avenue/Radcot Close, Woodley, Berkshire, RG5 3BL. Following Land registry searches the top of the bank and service road at the top of the bank were identified as privately owned. The verge immediately adjacent to the footway in the hedge base at the above location was identified as adopted highway and the site was acceptable to the Highways department as indicated on the enclosed map extract, subject to the proposed equipment cabinet not encroaching into the footway.

Can you also confirm in writing, or via e:mail, your approval of the above site as suitable for locating a column and cabinet upon.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address?

Yours sincerely

Neil Hodgson
Acquisition Consultant
Mob 07855 960042
Neil.Hodgson@patrickfarfan.com

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Offices throughout the UK and Europe.

Registered in England Company Reg No 2875675 VAT Reg No GB 626844108

Woodley Town Council

Woodford Park, Haddon Drive
Woodley, Berkshire, RG5 4LY
Tel. 0118 969 0356 Fax 0118 962 8356

Your Reference

Email: ann.keenan@woodley.gov.uk

Rep Rep 53478

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Heidi Lynch
Planning Services
Wokingham District Council
Shute End
WOKINGHAM

21 February, 2002

Dear Heidi

Plan No. TL/2002/5798: Telecommunications column - Western Avenue

I know you are aware of the public concern about this proposal and will have already received a huge number of letters of objection from local residents.

The Town Council also fully supported the residents' strong concerns about this particular location, although Members accepted that in order to meet the growing needs of mobile phone users, the requirement for additional telecommunications masts is an inevitable outcome.

We have a verbal agreement (yet to be confirmed in writing) for a representative of Orange Plc to come along to the next meeting of our Plans Committee on Tuesday 5 March. As all our meetings are open to the public, it is likely that residents from the area of Western Avenue may be there and I have informed Mr. Hodgon of Patrick Farfan Associates of this situation.

As the planning officer dealing with this particular application, I have been asked to write and invite you, or another representative of the planning team, to our meeting. I am sure it would allow for a discussion which would be helpful in assessing future needs, particularly in Woodley, and could perhaps lead to the identification of more acceptable sites. I look forward to hearing that a District Council representative can attend - a phone call or email will be fine.

Yours sincerely

Ann Keenan (Mrs.)
Community and Members Services Officer

Town Clerk
Deborah Mander BA MA

Phoned to say couldn't make meeting time.

FILE NOTE REGARDING LAND OWNERSHIP OF GRASS VERGE AREA THE SITE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS NOTIFICATION TL/2002/5798

15.2.2002

We have rec'd several letters with copies of deeds and maps indicating that the grass verge area in front of No's 69 - 81 Western Avenue is in the ownership of these householders.

Highways maps indicate that the land is highway verge and owned by WDC but they have no other documentary evidence to support this claim.

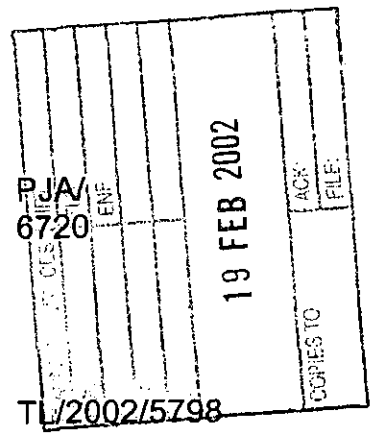
Property Section maps seem to indicate that the land fronting No.69 to in front of No. 75 is owned by WDC but that the remainder is not - this would appear in part to support the claim that at least this area, which includes the application site, is owned by the residents. Peter Anderson in Property is looking to see if we have any other documentary evidence that may indicate if we are the land owners but is not confident, they think this may have been an area that was transferred to us from the old Berkshire County Council and these records are rather incomplete.

Legal Section (Colin Lawley) have requested that Land Registry carry out a search and the results should be back by Tues (19th) or Weds (20th).

Ian Jordan

WOKINGHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM



From: Peter Anderson
Property Services

My Ref: PJA/
Extn: 6720

To: Heidi Lynch
Planning

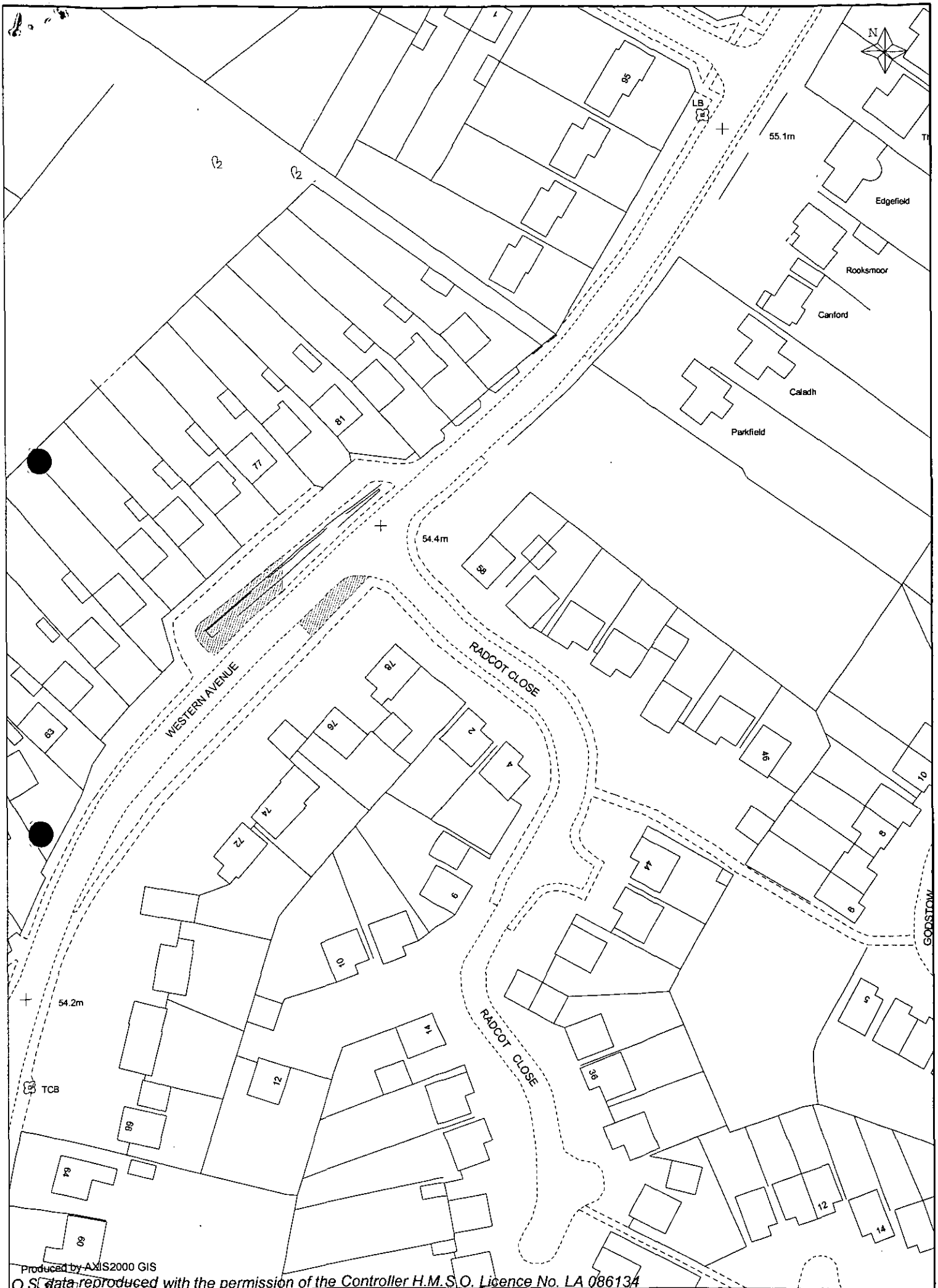
Your Ref: TL/2002/5798

Date: February 19, 2002

LAND AT JUNCTION, RADCOT CLOSE / WESTERN AVENUE : WOODLEY

With reference to the above proposal, one of your colleagues called me reference this as they were interested in council owned verges etc in the area. Please find herewith a plan showing the urban verge on the corner in question. I believe the reason why he wanted to know was that Orange have a statutory right to place columns on urban verge and do not need planning permission. However, there is no reference on the system to who owns the verge perhaps Highways woulds have this on their records.

Peter Anderson
Technical Assistant
Property Services



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PROPERTY SERVICES: Wokingham District Council **Scale: 1 : 1000**

HIGHWAYS CONSULTATION SHEET

From: Heidi Lynch **Date:** 01 February 2002

Application Number: TL/2002/5798

Proposal: Proposed erection of 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna.

Parish: WOODLEY TOWN

Site Address:
Land At Junction Of Radcot Close &, Western Avenue, Woodley, Reading.

Applicant:
Orange PCSL C/O Patrick Farfan.

Your observations are required in respect of this application within **7 days** of the above date.

✓ below as applicable;

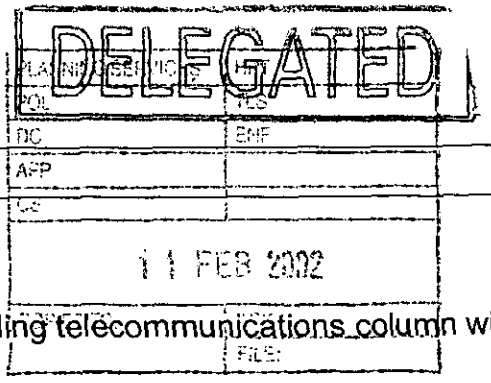
1) ☐ Recommend refusal for the reason(s) **stated below**;
2) ☐ Recommend approval but with condition(s) & reason(s) **stated below**;
3) ☐ Recommend approval with **no** condition(s) or reason(s).

The highway authority have concerns about service/maintenance vehicles parking close to the junction of Radcot Close & Western Avenue, and would therefore like to see the apparatus relocated further from this junction.

Signed: _____ **Print name:** ADAM 4/2/02

FROM: Heidi Lynch

DATE: 01 February 2002



WOODLEY TOWN CONSULTATION SHEET

Application Number: TL/2002/5798

Proposal: Proposed erection of 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna..

Site Address: Land At Junction Of Radcot Close &, Western Avenue, Woodley, Reading.

Applicant: Orange PCSL C/O Patrick Farfan.

Your observations are required in respect of this application **by 24/02/2002** .

Twenty Seven residents were present, all of whom were against the proposal. The meeting was adjourned to allow them to express their strong objections and bring the following matters to the committee's attention:

- The question of land ownership (a copy of deeds made available to the committee, showed private ownership of land right up to the highway)
- The mast would be approx. 8m from residential properties and only 300m from a primary school (It was believed that in the USA and Europe, no mast was allowed within 500m of any residential development)
- It was now 5 days from the date of the WDC letter and the plan was not available in the library

Councillor Lawley was present and he explained the change in the District Council's guidelines for mast applications which, he said, could no longer be judged on medical grounds. It was a 'Catch 22' situation.

After the meeting had been reconvened, the committee fully supported the residents' objections and asked that the following concerns be taken into account:

- Adjacent houses in Western Avenue (Nos. 71 to 79) were 2m higher than the footpath and there the top of the mast would be 2m lower than the rooftops.
- It was understood that higher levels of power were closer to the mast and therefore closer to the bedrooms of adjacent houses
- The siting of the proposed mast was inappropriate as the signal shadow to the north would be impeded by the spoil bank and trees alongside the railway
- The plans were inaccurate and misleading – the BT pole was set in the footpath, which was 1.2m wide, not 2.7m.

PTO.

SIGNED: Sheena DATE: 6.2.02.

Clerk To Woodley Parish/Town Council.

- The mast would spoil the visual amenity of nearby residents
- There were still strong concerns about health risks, although these did not appear to be shared by the government
- The mast was environmentally unacceptable – potential noise, TV interference, close to residential properties and a school, children pass by en route to school
- Western Avenue served as a parking area, twice daily, for children dropped off at school
- The safety risks of the proposed location were unacceptable in terms of vehicles parking for maintenance of the equipment
- The intensity of emissions was unknown – residents had reason to believe these may be higher than allowed
- The potential for future mast sharing could allow deterioration in quality of life

Because of the vast usage of mobile phones, everyone accepted that the masts were inevitable. However, there was a strong view that local authorities and mobile phone companies should have a responsibility to find more acceptable and neutral sites away from residential properties.

It was also agreed that further investigation be carried out to determine the intensity of emissions in relation to what was allowed.

WOKINGHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND HOUSING

MEMORANDUM

To:	Heidi Lynch Development Control	Your Ref:	TL/2002/5798
From:	Tom Payne Environmental Health	My Ref:	20016956
		Date.	12 February 2002

PROPOSED erection of 11.8 m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna.

LAND AT JUNCTION WESTERN AVENUE & RADCOT CLOSE, WOODLEY.

These proposals have been evaluated and I have no environmental health objections to planning consent but have the following comments to make in relation to this proposal:

There have been questions raised as to the possibility of adverse health effects from electromagnetic radiation from telecommunication base stations and their positioning in relation to residential development and, in particular schools.

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Healths current policy states that;

(a) despite a growing body of research, there is currently no convincing evidence that environmental exposure to electromagnetic fields (emf) generated by the transmission of electricity or mobile telephony is harmful to human health, including that of children;
(b) that there is no justification on health grounds for restricting the public use of land other than immediately around power and mobile telecommunications installations. Conversely, there is no justification for restricting the siting of such installations in proximity to other land uses:
(c) that public concerns about the effects of electromagnetic fields while in our current state of knowledge apparently without foundation, should nonetheless be recognised as genuine.
(d) The full effects of emfs on humans may not yet be realised and though it can never be conclusive, there remains a need for continuing, properly funded, independent research into the nature, extent and relevance of those effects and the consequent adequacy of prevailing exposure guidelines.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

T. Payne.

TOM PAYNE
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & HOUSING

9 Selcourt Close
Woodley
Reading
RG5 3AS

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
POL	TLS
DC	ENF
APP	
CS	
07 FEB 2002	
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	FILE:

5th February 2002

Ref: TL/2002/5798

Dear Ms Lynch

Further to your letter of 1 February 2002 regarding the erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcot Close and Western Avenue, I would like to register my objection due to the possible adverse side effects that may occur living in close proximity to the site.

If you need to contact me for any further comments please do not hesitate to write to me at the above address.

Yours sincerely

Louise Sutton

0118-9692281.

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DC	HL	ENF	
APP			
CS			

06 FEB 2002

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97. Western Ave.
Woodley,
Readers
RG5. 3BL.
3.2.02

Mr. Jeidi Lynch.
Wokingham Unitary.

Madam. Application TL/2002/5798

I have your letter of the 1st February with regard to the telecommunication column.

I cannot conceive a more ludicrous idea: there is a large park and sports field a few hundred yards away - Woodford Park - and you propose to put the object adjacent to a road in a residential area!

Please reconsider and put it in the park.

Yours truly

J.H. Fogarty

(J.H. FOGARTY - owner, 97. Western Ave.)

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VCL 2002/5198	TLS
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WYNDHAM
WESTERN AVE
WOODLEY
BERKS
RG5 3BH
FEB 5th 2001

We would like to voice our objections to the proposed erection of the tele communications column in Western Ave.
We feel it would be un sightly in a residential area.
We are also concerned as they have not been proved "safe".
Surely an unsightly tele. com. column like this would be better placed in the centre of a large roundabout i.e. Sonning roundabout or Shepherds House Hill roundabout, not in the middle of a pretty tree lined avenue.

Yours sincerely

Mr & Mrs. A. Murphy.



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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... *it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach.* " [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

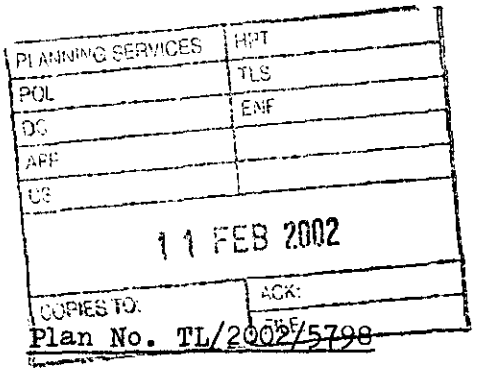
Yours Sincerely:

Name: MR. AND MRS. J. and J.M. CARVELL

Address: LARSTYNN
66 WESTERN AVENUE
WOODLEY
READING
RG5 3BH

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

Mr.Mrs. J.M.Carvell
'Larstynn',
66, Western Avenue,
Woodley,
Berkshire,
RG5 3BH



Ms. Heidi Lynch
P.O.Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berkshire
RG40 1WR

8th. February 2002

Dear Madam,

Following the meeting on Tuesday 5th. February 2002 regarding the above application for the erection of a mobile telephone mast, it was very clear from the reaction of the residents that the general feelings were that we are all passionately opposed to this going ahead.

Apart from the mast being unsightly, it seems just a totally inappropriate siting. Many houses are in very close proximity, loads of school children alight from cars very close to the chosen siting(with babies in pushchairs accompanying their older brothers and sisters to school).

At this point I would just like to add that when the question of a 'health risk' was brought up it seemed to be brushed aside as 'not proven'. As the mother of a daughter with a Pacemaker, however small the 'risk', I am very concerned. She also has a 3 year old who I do not want to chance a 'risk'- they are at our home more often than not, yes, it is very worrying, and yes we are very strongly against this mast erection going ahead.

Also, I would like to add that it will put an obstacle in the way should any of us want to sell our houses, as it has to be said, these masts have not got a good reputation. I realise they 'have to be' these days but surely there is a much more suitable location for this particular mast?

Finally, 12 huge houses in Pound Lane, 40 proposed dwellings in Warren Road, another 21 homes going up in Reading Road and now a mobile 'phone mast - please tell me, what has lovely, once popular North Woodley done to warrant this 'invasion'? I digress - but please consider our objections regarding this 'MAST'.

Thanking you in anticipation of your interest.

Yours faithfully,

(Mr) and Mrs. J.M.Carvell

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PCL | TLS
DC | ENF
APP |
CS |
13 FEB 2002
FILE

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

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I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: Geoffrey H. Fowler

Name: G. H. FOWLER

Address: 83 WESTERN AVENUE
WOODLEY
READING RG5 3BL

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

P.S. apart from the technical aspect I am concerned for the aesthetic. This monstrosity will destroy a pleasant residential neighbourhood

I have already written to you on the subject on the 3rd February. This was written letter by M. Wass emphasising the necessity to think again

11/2/02

Application: TL/2002/5798

PLANNING SERVICES HPT TLS
13 FEB 2002

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: J. H. FOGARTY

Address: 97 Western Rd.,
Woodley
Reading RG5 3BL. 11/2/02

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

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Yours Sincerely: D Hall.

Name: MRS. D. HALL

Address: DORMAR, WESTERN AVENUE,
WOODLEY, READING, RG5 3BH.

Stewart report:
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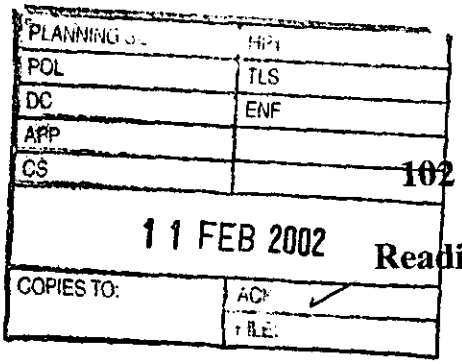

Portelet
102 Western Ave
Woodley
Reading RG5 3BH
3/2/2002

Dear Ms Lynch,

Please find attached an objection to Planning Application TL/2002/5798. This is the original copy of this objection. Please note, however, that I have circulated copies of this letter to other residents proximal to the proposed development and you may receive additional copies of this letter signed by other residents.

Yours sincerely

John Wann (Prof.)

Application: TL/2002/5798

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: Prof John Ward

Address: Porkelot
Western Ave
Woodley

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Application: TL/2002/5798

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Yours Sincerely: M. Knox.

Name: A. H. KNOX and M. KNOX

Address: 85 WESTERN AVENUE
WOODLEY
RG5 3BL

Already listed

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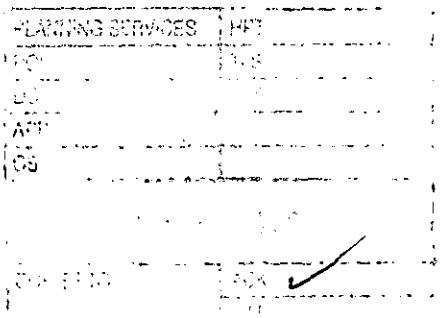

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Name: Mr M D Weedon

Address: 89, Western Avenue
Woodley
RG5 3BL

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Application: TL/2002/5798

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Yours Sincerely: J Swanborough

Name: JOSEPHINE SWANBOROUGH

Address: 67 WESTERN AVE
WOODLEY, READING RG5 3BL

Stewart report:
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Yours Sincerely:

Name: DAVID F. CARTER / DIANE S. CARTER.

Address: 51 WESTERN AVE, WOODLEY
READING RG5 3BJ

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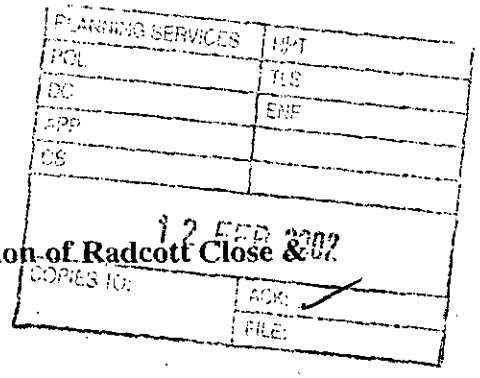

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5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

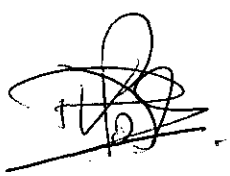
"... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach. " [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely:

Name: P.K. POPAT



Address:

EDGEFIELD
WESTERN AVENUE
WOODLEY
READING RG5 3BH

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

For Attention of Heidi Lynch Development Control Officer

Mrs D Walford
71 Western Avenue
Woodley Reading
Berks RG5BL

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Wokingham District Council
Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks. RG40 1WR

Your Ref: TL2002/5798

04 February 2002

Site Address: Land at junction of Radcot Close & Western Ave. Woodley

Following your letter dated 1st Feb 2002 giving details of the above proposal, I wish to object most strongly to the above application for the following reasons:

1 The proposed mast 11.8m high is completely out of character with the surrounding rural and residential area. There is no way that existing trees will be sufficient to hide this structure. The mast will be a 'blot on the landscape'. The visual effect will be detrimental to the quality of life of residents.

2 The proposed site is preposterous, being so close to the frontage of the houses in Western Avenue.

3 The surrounding area is extremely busy, used by many pedestrians, local residents, school children & church members.

4 The local primary school is located very close to this proposed site.

5 Bearing in the mind the close proximity as detailed in (2) & (4) the possible health implications of such a mast are of very grave concern. Whilst independent assessments and research (Stewart report) into such structures may state "there is no general risk to the health of people living near base stations, on the basis that exposures are expected to be small fractions of guidelines", there is NO ABSOLUTE PROOF that the general health is not affected and 'children may be more vulnerable'. Indeed, a precautionary approach has been recommended until more scientific knowledge and research is available. The recent article in 'The Guardian' entitled 'Phone masts start child cancer scare' raises further worries and concern.

6 It is stated that the pattern of radio wave emissions from a mast/base station is generally even, but there is a zone where the concentration is higher than elsewhere - at ground level this is usually some distance from the base station. In this case we believe to be between 90 - 140 metres from mast base covering many residential family properties and one of the children's play areas.

7 Radio waves above a certain level can cause heating effects to the body and International guidelines have been set to keep exposure below that level. The Radiocommunications Agency is carrying out an audit of base stations to ensure their compliance with these guidelines. The need for such an audit again highlights the cause for concern over such base stations.

8 This mast would inevitable have a detrimental affect on the price and sale of houses (a high percentage of which are family residences) in the area.

9 PPG8 guidelines encourage communication companies to mast share - if this mast is allowed this would presumably be the tip of the iceberg resulting in additions/larger masts/more antennas

10 **Please be aware of the fact that this land is privately owned as shown on our deeds. The residents of the privately owned drive and land do not wish this mast to be erected.**

Telephone masts are obviously necessary and the problems of where they are sited are not going to go away. **Why therefore does not Wokingham Council have some forward planning and identify suitable sites with the communication companies, thus cutting down costs, time, effort and worry both to your staff and local residents?**

It is believed that Wokingham Council has turned down a number of such applications recently and the mast companies have gone to appeal and won, the Council incurring costs. Disconcerting as this may be we sincerely hope that this will in no way influence the Council's decision in this instance and that the relative 'decision makers' will act responsibly and **TURN DOWN THIS APPLICATION.**

I would also like answers from Wokingham Council to the questions posed in this letter please

Yours sincerely

D. Walford

Dorothy Walford
71 ~~75~~ Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading Rg5 3BL
Tel 0118 ~~9618354~~ 9693301

Cc Ann Keenan (Mrs)
Woodley Town Council

For Attention of Heidi Lynch Development Control Officer
Wokingham District Council
Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks. RG40 1WR

Your Ref: TL2002/5798

04 February 2002

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I would also like answers from Wokingham Council to the questions posed in this letter please

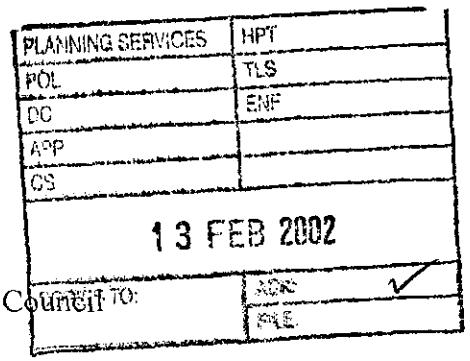
Yours sincerely

Ann Brown
73 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading Rg5 3BL
Tel 0118 9618354

Cc Ann Keenan (Mrs)
Woodley Town Council

119 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BL

11 February 2002



Heidi Lynch
Planning Dept.
Wokingham District Council
P.O. Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks
RG40 1WR

Dear Ms Lynch

RE: PLANNING APPLICATION No. TL/2002/5798

ERECTION OF TELECOMMUNICATION MAST ON LAND AT RADCOT CLOSE &, LAND AT JUNCTION OF, WESTERN AVENUE, WOODLEY

I write in objection to the proposed erection of a telecommunication mast and ancillary building on land situate at **Radcot Close &, Land At Junction Of, Western Avenue, Woodley**. The siting and design of the proposed mast will detract from, and adversely affect the amenity of the locality. I urge the local authority to invoke your powers under Article 4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995. I am sure the committee will agree that it would be expedient in order to protect the amenity of the locality, and for the good planning of the area, that an Article 4 order should be made.

As you will be aware, there are a large number of conflicting academic reports on the dangers of irradiation emitted from base stations. With this in mind I urge you to follow the recommendation of the Stewart Report, and adopt a **precautionary approach** *(see para 1.21 and 6.16 of that report)* in deciding applications for telecommunication base stations. This approach as you will be aware is enshrined within national planning policy structure of the UK, as well as European legislation ***(Please refer to the Government White Paper "This Common Inheritance", PPG23 "Planning and Pollution Control" and "Sustainable Development - the UK Strategy", as well as being enshrined in the Treaty of European Union (Maastricht, 1992; in force from 1.11.93) - Title XVI: Environment, Article 130r)***:

Tel. +44 118 969 6390 Fax. +44 118 927 2152 Mobile. +44 7831 385013 E-Mail. tony.essex@ntlworld.com

Article 130r

"1) Community policy on the environment shall contribute to pursuit of the following objectives:

- *preserving, protecting and improving the quality of the environment;*
- ***protecting human health;***
- *prudent and rational utilisation of natural resources;*
- ***Promoting measures at international level to deal with regional or worldwide environmental problems.***

2) Community policy on the environment shall aim at a high level of protection taking into account the diversity of situations in the various regions of the Community. ***It shall be based on the precautionary principles that preventative action should be taken, that environmental damage should be rectified at source and that the polluter should pay...*** *(p39)"*

The Stewart Report states at para 1.19:

We conclude therefore that it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and that the gaps in knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach'.

I am very concerned that the biological affects and irradiation emmitted from the proposed development will affect not only my own health but that of my family, and those visiting my home. As such I urge you to use the power confered upon you by para 29 of PPG8 and attach considerable weight to the fear that the majority of local residents have.

The Stewart Report recommends that exclusion zones are placed around all base stations, and indeed some countries already have exclusion zones. This recommendation clearly indicates that there is a potential for concern in placing masts close to sensitive locations such as schools, hospitals and residential areas.

Exclusion Zones (1.44)

We recommend the establishment of clearly defined physical exclusion zones around base station antennas, which delineate areas within which exposure guidelines may be exceeded (paragraph 6.49 – 6.52). The incorporation of exclusion zones should be part of the template of planning protocols that we advocate.

Physical Barriers (1.45)

Each exclusion zone should be defined by a physical barrier and a readily identifiable nationally agreed sign with a logo. This should inform the public and workers that inside the exclusion zone there might be RF emissions which exceed national guidelines.

The government recommends that local authorities do not take health effects into consideration, however many local authorities are rejecting these recommendations including Kent County Council, which refuses to endorse consents on any council land, due to their concerns over health. I would also draw your attention to the case pending before the High Court for leave to apply for judicial review of a base station

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on the question of the LPA failing to take into account the health aspects of masts *(R v Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council ex parte Smith).*
Should this application be decided in favour of the Claimant then question marks will be put over all masts where the health issues were not taken into account.
However, even if a rejection of the arguments relating to the precautionary approach is taken by the planning committee, we would urge you to consider the effect the size and design of this mast will have on the amenity of the local area, towering as it will some 11.8 metres (almost 40 ft) into the air, which will contrast with the residential nature/open aspect of the locality. PPG8 makes it clear that a rejection of permitted development permission is acceptable for base stations should the LPA conclude that it would have an adverse effect on the amenity of the area. I also take this opportunity to draw your attention to the factors listed in ***PPG8 Annex 1 para 13*** that may involve siting:

- *the height of the site in relation to surrounding land;*
- *the existence of topographical features and natural vegetation;*
- *the effect on the skyline or horizon;*
- *the site when observed from any side, including from outside the authority's own area;*
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- *the site in relation to existing masts, structures or buildings, including buildings of a historical or traditional character;*
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There is as you will be aware an obligation contained within PPG8 for operators to hold talks with local authorities, and recommendations that these discussions should also include other organisations such as local residents groups. Could you therefore supply me with information relating to these meetings, in particular the out come of the obligatory talks that the local authority held with the Operator, along with details of any residents groups who took part, or were invited to take part in these discussions.
Whilst reserving the right to make further representation on this application, I urge you to refuse permission for the above reasons.
Yours sincerely

Mrs J Essex
Local resident

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119 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BL

11 February 2002

Heidi Lynch
Planning Dept.
Wokingham District Council
P.O. Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks
RG40 1WR

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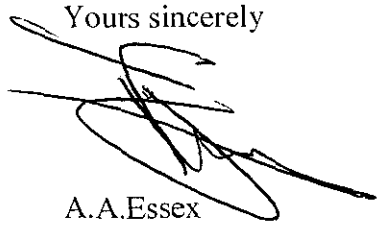
Yours sincerely



A.A.Essex
Local resident

Tel. +44 118 969 6390 Fax. +44 118 927 2152 Mobile. +44 7831 385013 E-Mail. tony.essex@ntlworld.com

MRS. J. JACKSON
70 Western Avenue
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RG5 3BH

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Ms Heidi Lynch
Wokingham Council Planning Services
PO Box 157
Wokingham
Berks
RG10 1WR

9th February 2002

Ref : Application **TL/2002/579**

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch,

I am writing to you about the above application to bring to your attention my concerns.

I live with my family which includes three young children within very close proximity of the proposed mast. I have been informed that my family will be living within the area which will receive the worst effects of any long term impact from the emissions. So far there have been no long term studies in the UK to confirm that there are links between this kind of exposure and serious illness, however in America, New Zealand and a number of other European Countries this type of application is only allowed if there is an exclusion zone of 500m. I do not think that it would be possible for Orange to find a situation in a more densely populated area full of children and families. This situation even includes St Dominic's School, a large school full of infants and junior children who will absorb up to 60% more RF radiation than adults. I cannot help feeling that there must be other sites which would be more appropriate causing less anxiety.

Western Avenue is an extremely busy road often filled with cars parked along the roadside and next to this site for parents taking their children to St Dominic's School. The addition of vehicles required for the erection and maintenance of this mask would surely add to an already dangerous road. This site is also situated opposite a junction with poor visibility when cars are parked for the school. I am sure that the local traffic wardens could confirm this.

My son owns an orange mobile phone which he frequently uses in our home and has absolutely no problem with the transmission whatsoever, so I question whether the mast is really necessary anyway

I understand from my investigations that The Scottish Parliament are now debating whether new mobile phone masts should require full planning permission amid fears that they may be linked to ill health. Kent Council could become the first local authority in the country to ban the erection of new masks on council land of property such as schools. It is thought that many other authorities may follow suit.

I am also very concerned that if this application goes ahead, in the future if we decide to sell our house, no one will want to buy it. We have worked very hard to buy our own house; if this application goes ahead I will no longer feel that I am providing a safe environment for my children.

I really hope that you will listen to the concerns of the local community and refuse this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

J. Jackson

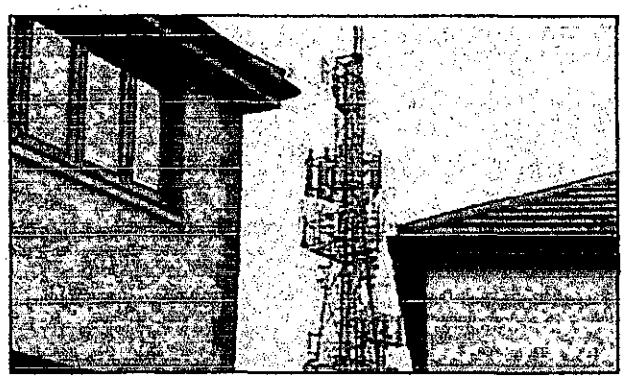
Mrs.J.Jackson

enc

Jacqui Jackson

Thursday, 11 May, 2000, 13:40 GMT 14:40 UK

Planning change call for phone masts



Worries have been expressed over masts near houses

MSPs have demanded that full planning permission be required for all new mobile phone masts in Scotland - amid fears they might be linked to ill health.

The call came during a debate on the issue in the Scottish Parliament on Thursday.

The UK Government has promised to fund comprehensive research into the possible health risks of mobile phones and masts after experts warned that they may pose a threat to children.

A report by Sir William Stewart said that although there was no current evidence of a health risk, children should be discouraged from making "non-essential" calls until further research has been completed.



A report recommends children ration use of mobiles

The Scottish Parliament's transport and environment committee has already recommended that the current law, which allows mobile masts to be sited without full planning permission, be changed.

It concluded that health should be a factor when planning decisions are taken.

Members said public concerns over safety should be taken into account, although they did not recommend a minimum distance for masts to be sited from buildings.

Church's dilemma

MSPs were scheduled to vote to back tougher rules when they met on Thursday afternoon.

Andy Kerr, environment committee convener, said councils should consider introducing a "hierarchy of priority" for those buildings - such as schools and hospitals - which should not be used for mobile phone masts.

Meanwhile, the Church of Scotland has been asked to make a clear statement about where it stands on the siting of mobile phone masts.

The call came from the Reverend Les Donaghy, of St Andrew's Church in Dumbarton, who was offered £2,500 per annum from BT Cellnet for the next 10 years if he agreed to erect a mast at

the church.

Churches have increasingly been asked by mobile phone networks to place radio telecommunications equipment on or next to their buildings.

Mr Donaghy said: "Apart from the fact that we thought a 47ft mast would look appalling, the health and safety aspect was a huge concern.

"We just don't know what the effect would be on the local population - especially the children."

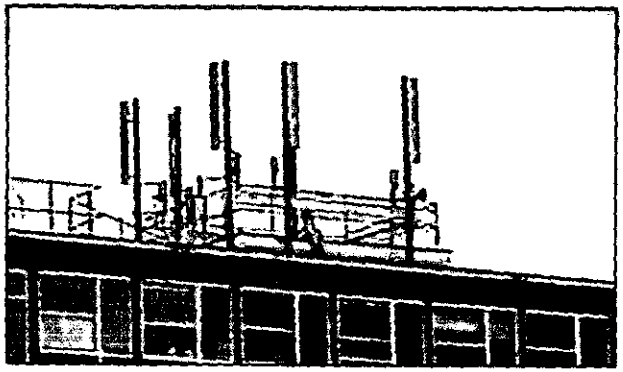


Health Minister Susan Deacon on her mobile

The General Assembly's General Trustees have prepared a report on mobile phone masts for the assembly's annual gathering next week.

Jacqui Jackson www.bbc.co.uk

Council considers mobile mast ban



There are health concerns about mobile phone masts

A local authority will on Monday consider the introduction of a ban on mobile phone masts amid continuing concerns about their threat to health.

Kent County Council could become the first local authority in the country to ban the erection of new masts on council land or property such as schools, hospitals or libraries.

It is thought that many other local authorities may follow suit.

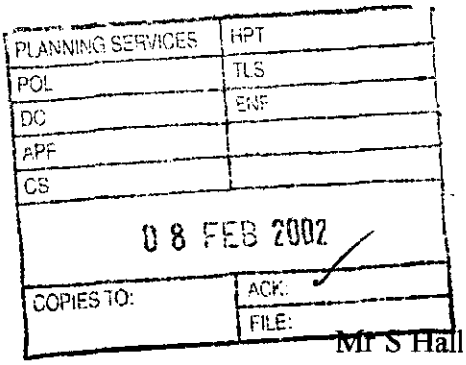
At present, there are 20,000 mobile phone masts in the UK, and it is estimated that a further 100,000 may be built in the next five years.

A report by Sir William Stewart, the government's chief scientific adviser, into the safety of mobile phone masts published last year found no firm evidence of a threat to health - but did not rule out the possibility.

Sir William recommended stricter planning controls on masts.

Sandy Bruce Lockhart, the leader of Kent County Council, said: "We want the industry to accept its environmental health responsibilities.

"At the moment you have got masts going up all over the place in an uncoordinated fashion."



Ms Hedi Lynch
Wokingham Council
Planning Services
P.O Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR

Mr S Hall
Dormar
Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
RG5 3BH

7th Febuary 2002

RE: PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE TL/2002/5798

Dear Ms Lynch

I write to voice my objections to the above planning application.

To site such an unsightly obelisk within a residential location can only result in bringing down the tone of the area. Not to mention the questionable health risks (being in such close proximity) this would place on local residents.

Both of the afforementioned can only result in a devaluation of property (ie no one if given a choice would wish to live directly under such an umberella)

Yours faithfully

Mr S.Hall

'Brylea'
Western Ave
Woodley
RG5 3BH.

Wokingham Unitary
Environmental Services Department
Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

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Dear Madam

Application Number TL/2002/5798.

Site Address - land at Junction of Radcot Close and Western Ave Woodley.

Proposal - Erection of 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column.

I write with some concern regarding the erection of a telecommunications column at the above site address. It has in the past been suggested, and not disproved, that telecommunications columns are linked to health problems.

I feel that the site address is completely unsuitable given that this is a residential area, with a large primary school, popular church and recreation ground all within a half mile of the proposed site.

Whilst I appreciate the business needs of Orange PCSL, I am opposed to their proposed siting of this atenna.

Yours faithfully

Vicky Mealyer

VICKY MEALYER.

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85 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading RG5 3BL
0118-9693523

4th February 2002

Your Ref: Heidi Lynch TL/2002/5798

Heidi Lynch
Devt Control Officer
Wokingham Unitary Planning Services
P O Box 157, Shute End,
Wokingham RG40 1WR

Dear Madam,
Re: Appln No: TL/2002/5798

In reply to your letter of 1st February concerning proposal under above reference we object to the erection of this column on the following grounds:-

1. The mast is out of all proportion to all the buildings in this residential road.
2. It is unreasonably intrusive and has no place near to 2-storey houses.
3. The Microwave emissions from such a mast are dangerous.
4. The maintenance required, using a large crane will be a hazard in a road already congested by school traffic and public transport.

Yours sincerely,

Alan H Knox M. Knox.

Mary Knox

CC Woodley Town Council

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	FILE:

75, Western Avenue
Woodley, Reading.
Berkshire.
RG5 3BL
Telephone: 0118 961 8829
Fax: 0118 944 2479
Email: n.moulsley@ntlworld.com

2nd February 2002

Heidi Lynch
Development Control Officer
Wokingham Unitary
Planning Services
P O Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham RG40 1WR

Your Ref: TL/2002/5798

Dear Heidi

Application Number: TL2002/5798

Thank you for your communication of the 1st February 2002 concerning the above application at the junction of Western Avenue and Radcot Close.

The proposed erection of the Orange telecommunications column in this position is quite preposterous. This is in the midst of a residential zone with young children, where microwave emissions is unacceptable.

The column would be an eye sore directly in front of my property and the only gain from such an erection is a commercial one for Orange PCSL. Such antenna should be sited on high ground away from residential dwellings.

Yours sincerely

Norman J Moulsley

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	FILE:

Rooksmoor,
Western Avenue,
Woodley,
Reading,
Berks RG5 3BH

6th February, 2002

Dear Ms Lynch,

Plan No. TL/2002/5798

I am writing to object to the proposed erection of a phone transmitter mast opposite Radcot Close.

Firstly, there are real worries about the health of those living near such a transmitter. Until it is proven conclusively that they pose no health risk it is inappropriate to erect a transmitter in a residential area like ours.

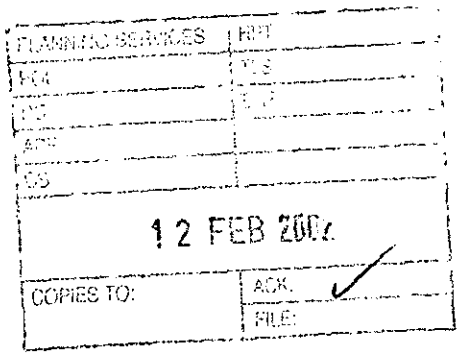
Secondly, such a transmitter is an eyesore. Western Avenue is a much sought after road in which to live and erecting a transmitter will spoil it. It will be much higher than surrounding trees and before long will be covered with lots of ugly satellite dishes.

I, therefore feel very strongly that this proposal should be rejected.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Springgay

Mrs Lisa Springgay



Angela + Michael Powell
& Family

Western Cottage
64 Western Avenue
Woodley, RG5 3BH
8th February 2002

Heidi Lynch
Development Control Officer
Wokingham Unitary Environment Planning Services

Ref: Heidi Lynch TL/2002/5798 40ft tall Phone Mast Proposal for Western Avenue

We are writing to lodge our formal objections to the above application by Orange PCSL to carry out a telecommunications development within Western Avenue - a densely populated residential area.

We are extremely concerned that Wokingham Council are even considering this application given that the mast will be erected within 300 meters of a primary school populated by approximately 400 children under the age of 11. No doubt Orange favour the "catch them young" approach but as a Council you surely have a moral duty to safe guard our children from potential harm.

These are the factors causing us fear and concern;

- **Health risks**; It is now well documented that emissions from phone masts and their base stations are harmful to humans affecting brain function and causing headaches, sleep disruption, impairment of short term memory and an increasing predisposition to cancer. Some of these may not be life threatening but they will have a debilitating effect on our families well being. A continual & potentially harmful cocktail of emissions is not something we want to be slow cooked by whilst we sleep at night. When clear and unequivocal concerns are being publicised by national health organisations on the health effects that constant bombardment by microwave radiation cause how can Wokingham Council give any lea way to mobile phone operators on the installation of masts in such close proximity to houses and schools. Our home lies within 250 mtrs of the proposed site.

- **Our children are at risk**; Children below the age of 12 are particularly vulnerable. Their nervous systems are still developing and this makes them more susceptible to genetic damage which in turn may undermine their neurological and academic development. There is evidence of an increase in cancer amongst young children living close to masts and an increase in seizures amongst those children with epilepsy. If our children attend St Dominics School, as is our intent, they will spend the next **11 years** being exposed to low level emissions of RF radiation 24 hours a day.

- **Mobile Phone Coverage;** There is currently adequate mobile phone coverage in the area so the benefits of a mast installation in an area of satisfactory coverage surely are questionable.

- **Property Value;** A mast will depreciate the value of our home.

- **Visual Amenity;** Due to the location of the proposed site it seems unlikely that any screening or landscaping of the mast site will take place. The area does not appear wide enough to allow for screening / landscaping etc. let alone room for the base station cabinets or their ongoing maintenance - will we have to walk in the road whilst maintenance takes place? The result will be a danger to pedestrians, including those children walking to St Dominics, and an *acute eyesore* in what is otherwise a beautiful residential tree lined avenue.

- **Notification**; There is no planning notice visible at the proposed site location, plans were still not available for viewing at Woodley Library this week therefore effectively ensuring that we have had considerably less time to consider options and take action - is this an oversight or are the residents being excluded from the consultation process and denied the right to reject a planning application.

- **General Disruption;** Will Wokingham Council prevent other mobile phone companies adding equipment to an existing mast, called mast sharing, will you prevent the addition of new masts alongside an existing one. Will you monitor the increase in power output and ensure that we are not being put at further risk? Who will manage the continual need for maintenance work and how it should take place? Will maintenance works be notified in advance to residents? Will maintenance work occur during unsociable hours?

- **Noise;** I am concerned that the continual banging and clanking of fall arrest wires, lightening tapes etc. will be a source of persistent irritation and will prevent our family from sleeping at night. Western Avenue is currently a very quiet road, even the nearby train line can not be heard due the extremely deep cutting, therefore any extraneous noise will impact on a wide number of residents not just those directly nest to the proposed site.

- **Quality of Life;** We do not have unrealistic "jackpot winning" quality of life expectations we simply hope for a long, happy and healthy existence in a safe and peaceful environment away from risk and harm where our children can grow up strong, healthy and happy and go on to do well in the world. Are Wokingham Council really expecting to deprive us of that right too?

Given that the concerns and fears of local residents seem to far outweigh the slight benefits that Orange may obtain and that the factors outlined above will have a **severe impact** on our lives I implore Wokingham Council to reject this application.

If we have to have more masts in Woodley, please consider more suitable sites such as the often vacant allotment fields less than 1/2 mile away, **and advise Orange that under no circumstances can a mast be installed in Western Avenue.**

Yours sincerely

Angela & Michael Powell
on behalf of our children

C.C
Teresa May, MP
Peter Skinner, Emma Nicholson & Roy Perry, MEP
T. Dredge. T. McCann & M. Leonard, Councillors
Colin George, Woodley Chronicle

Ref: Heidi Lynch TL/2002/5798.

R. T. Moxon

"Staddle Stones",
95 Western Avenue,
Woodley,
Reading RG5 3BL
Tel. 0118 969 2015

Wokingham Unitary,
Planning Services,
P.O. Box 157,
Shute End, Wokingham,
Berks. RG40 1WR

7th February 2002.

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Proposed Mobile 'Phone Antenna for Orange,
In Western Avenue, Woodley**

Thank you for your letter dated 1st February, in response to which I must make the same objections I feel sure are almost inevitable from residents generally. These are of course,

i) The proposed site is in an exceptionally conspicuous position, which is totally inappropriate in any residential area, but particularly so where trees and shrubs are an important part of the environment. So close to so many properties, this would unnecessarily spoil the view for a great many people, to an extent which would undoubtedly affect the value of their houses.

ii) It is unwise at this stage, to assume that the proposed position of the antenna would represent an insignificant health risk, and a sensible precaution would be to move it as far as possible from dwellings.

As a Chartered Electrical Engineer, I feel bound to mention that certain other considerations are also relevant.

iii) The burgeoning demand for mobile 'phone aerials, seems to need considerably deeper consideration than has been applied to date. We now have numerous competitors in the field, and it is clearly unreasonable to anticipate that each of these can set up aerials quite independently. I am already aware of three sites within half a mile of this address, nominally the responsibility of three different operators. All of these are licensed to the same power level, in the same frequency band, and currently responsible for fairly high power signals (greater than 20dBW). It has to be asked therefore to what extent these providers co-operate, even to the point of using common resources? The co-operation I might expect, could lead to the use of a common antenna by a number of operators, or at least the use of an existing mast wherever possible, for a number of independently driven arrays. It is appreciated that the latter arrangement might require special design.

iv) No detailed information has been offered as the reason for the intended antenna, but it is assumed that the spoil banks forming the margins to Sonning railway cutting may be responsible for some fairly local screening. Nevertheless

Cont'd

Dear Sir Nicholas,

Proposed Mobile Phone Antenna for Orange, in Western Avenue, Woodley

Thank you for your letter dated 1st February, in response to which I must make the following comments. I hope you can advise:

i) The proposed antenna is not acceptable under the Planning Policy Guidance Note 8 (Telecommunications) as it is considered that the proposal would be detrimental to the visual amenity of the area. The antenna would be visually intrusive upon the skyline and a prominent feature in the street scene. The proposal would therefore be contrary to Policy [illegible] of the Borough Local Plan.

ii) It is unclear at this stage to mention that the proposed position of the antenna would not be detrimental to the health of residents and a certificate to this effect should be submitted.

iii) The Borough Council's Highways Engineer has raised no objections to the proposal and it is considered that the proposed antenna would not be detrimental to highway safety.

iv) The Borough Council is satisfied that adequate efforts have been made to find alternative sites and it is considered that the proposal is acceptable in this respect.

v) The Borough Council is satisfied that adequate efforts have been made to find alternative sites and it is considered that the proposal is acceptable in this respect.

vi) The proposed antenna is not acceptable under the Planning Policy Guidance Note 8 (Telecommunications) as it is considered that the proposal would be detrimental to the visual amenity of the area. The antenna would be visually intrusive upon the skyline and a prominent feature in the street scene. The proposal would therefore be contrary to Policy [illegible] of the Borough Local Plan.

vii) It is unclear at this stage to mention that the proposed position of the antenna would not be detrimental to the health of residents and a certificate to this effect should be submitted.

viii) The Borough Council's Highways Engineer has raised no objections to the proposal and it is considered that the proposed antenna would not be detrimental to highway safety.

ix) The Borough Council is satisfied that adequate efforts have been made to find alternative sites and it is considered that the proposal is acceptable in this respect.

Yours [illegible]

Mr. Nicholas Bingham
Planning Officer
Bracknell Forest Borough Council
Time Square
Market Street
Bracknell
Berkshire RG12 1JD

Dear Sir,

Proposed Mobile Phone Antenna for Orange,
in Western Avenue, Woodley

Thank you for your letter dated 1st February, in response to which I must make the following comments. I hope you can advise:

i) The proposed antenna is not acceptable under the Planning Policy Guidance Note 8 (Telecommunications) as it is considered that the proposal would be detrimental to the visual amenity of the area. The antenna would be visually intrusive upon the skyline and a prominent feature in the street scene. The proposal would therefore be contrary to Policy [illegible] of the Borough Local Plan.

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vii) It is unclear at this stage to mention that the proposed position of the antenna would not be detrimental to the health of residents and a certificate to this effect should be submitted.

viii) The Borough Council's Highways Engineer has raised no objections to the proposal and it is considered that the proposed antenna would not be detrimental to highway safety.

ix) The Borough Council is satisfied that adequate efforts have been made to find alternative sites and it is considered that the proposal is acceptable in this respect.

Yours [illegible]

other operators do not seem to have any problem in this locality. Insofar as I am aware, Vodafone and BTCellnet both provide very good coverage. It is suggested that perhaps co-operation as described above could provide a solution, without the need for yet another antenna.

v) It is noted that the dimension at the mast top (167mm) is quite small, and provided nothing is added, this particular mast could be very much less conspicuous if placed as far from houses as possible, with its lower section obscured by trees. Possibly, actually mounted on the spoil bank, a shorter mast could also be used? Precautions taken to avoid health hazard would remain necessary, and ideally the space between the mast and any dwelling should be no less than 500metres, in order to be in line with current thinking and as already adopted in some areas of the world.

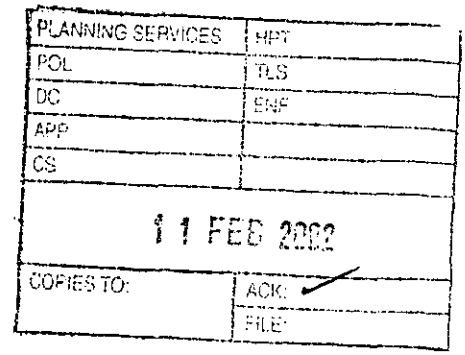
I shall be grateful if you will let me know of the eventual outcome to this proposal.

Yours faithfully,

R.T. Moxon

CGH Pierce
Rowanbury
99 Western Ave
Woodley RG5 3BL

9 Feb02



Wokingham Unitary
Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham RG40 1WR
Attn: Ms H Lynch

Dear Ms Lynch,

APPLICATION NO: TL/2002/5798 -erection of telecomm column Western Ave

Thank you for informing me of the above application. I have examined the plan and visited the site and the following are my comments.

I believe the site is totally inappropriate and I therefore object to the application. I appreciate the need for good communications and realise aerials must be provided , but this site is only 20 metres from the nearest house and others are in the region of 25 metres. It is on the side of a busy road frequented by many children who attend St Dominics, which is about 200 metres away. Moreover the road in this area is used extensively as a parking place for dropping off and collecting children from the school.

The height of the column is likely to be intrusive but more importantly the lower beam edge spreads to 64.45 metres. I realise that there is no positive evidence that the transmissions are harmful, but the jury is out on the issue and where young children are concerned we should not take the risk. As I understand it the Council had a local rule of thumb for safety that aerials should not be within 60metres of public places, this is well inside that, hence my objection.

Yours sincerely,

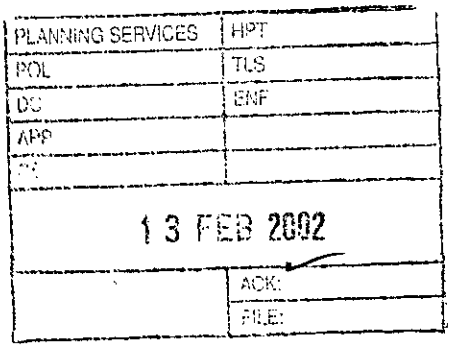
Colin Pierce

CGH Pierce

[illegible]

91 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire RG5 3BL

Tel: 0118 9448722



Ms Heidi Lynch
Development Control Officer
Wokingham Unitary Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR

11 February 2002

Dear Madam

APPLICATION NO: **TL/2002/5798**
SITE ADDRESS: **Land at Junction of Radcot Close & Western Avenue, Woodley, Reading**
PROPOSAL: **Proposed erection of 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna.**

Thank you for your letter of 1 February, informing me of the above application for a telecommunications column close to my property.

Needless to say I am very concerned by this proposal as I am aware of a number of reports in the Press that consider there may be a significant health risk with this type of installation. In the time available I have only been able to make limited enquiries with regard to the effect of this column although I have to say I was very concerned by the initial response I received from you when telephoning you on Monday 4th. When I spoke to you, you stated that you knew nothing about these installations and the possible adverse effects on adjacent residents which I find very disturbing and no doubt you will be making the appropriate research before considering the application. In the short time available to consider the matter I would however like to make the following observations:-

1. As a Chartered Surveyor undertaking Building Surveys and Valuations of residential property, I am well aware of the adverse effect that installations of this type can have on the saleability of properties, even if there is no definitive information available. As I am sure you are aware, there has been substantial debate and reports on the possible effects of pylons and electrical substations on adjacent residents and the possible link with cancer. For your information, with most Banks, Building Societies and other lenders we are required to put in specific clauses drawing people's attention to the adverse effects of such installations. I am currently making enquiries of the RICS, my professional body to obtain an up-date on the position with regard to telecommunications columns and I suspect that there is likely to be a very cautious approach based on the information available at present.

2. The proposed location of the mast is in a residential area, very close to numerous houses and in fact less than 100 yards from my own property. The location is also a short distance from St Dominic's School. Against the background of the increasing concern of such installations due to the link with ill health, I would be frankly amazed if the Council even considered siting such an installation in this location.

   I am in possession of a Department of Health brochure which refers to research undertaken by a group of independent experts lead by Sir William Stewart. Their investigations on mobile phone technology including base stations on behalf of the Government concluded that:-

   "Gaps in scientific knowledge led the Stewart Group to recommend a precautionary approach to the use of mobile phones and base stations until more research findings become available. They added that in some cases peoples well being may be adversely affected by insensitive siting of base stations."

   I have 3 young children living at my property which gives me even greater concern about this proposal, needless to say you are aware that there are a large number of family houses immediately adjacent to the site and I am quite certain that the occupiers are equally concerned. My eldest son is an epileptic and I have also heard that there have been reports of an increase in seizures amongst epileptic children located adjacent to these installations.

3. As you are aware, Western Avenue is an attractive residential location and the thought of such an ugly fixture being sited close to my house and in full view of a great many other residents I find of great concern and frankly offensive.

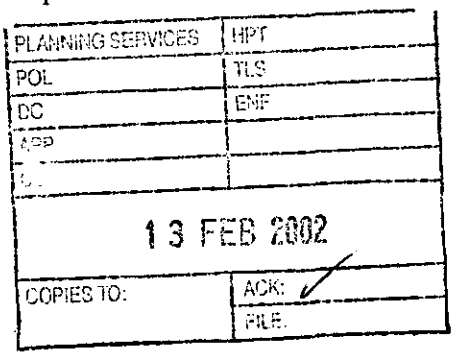
4. On a more general note, the proposed siting of the mast is, as I understand it, on a strip of land owned by the Council. I, like many other residents in Western Avenue, have a strip of land in front of my property which I maintain although I am not certain as to whether it is within my ownership. It is reasonable to say that this strip of land should be classified as amenity land, most residents are delighted to maintain such areas and plant trees and shrubs to add to the scenic beauty of the Avenue. I find it extremely disconcerting that the Council see this land as an opportunity to consider any form of development. I am very concerned about this aspect and I suspect other occupiers in the area would like reassurance that the Council will not be considering other odious and inappropriate developments.

In summary I am strongly opposed to this proposed application on health grounds alone although clearly there are a number of other significant considerations as outlined above. I hope this letter is of assistance to you in arriving at the correct decision and I will be happy to further discuss this matter if you consider this appropriate.

Yours faithfully

F J FRY

T R & P M Smith
1 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 3BJ
Telephone 0118 9694803



Heidi Lynch
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks
RG40 1WR

February 12, 2002

Dear Ms Lynch

Proposed Installation of Telephone Mast in Western Avenue Woodley

I am writing on behalf on my husband and I to register our most strong objections to the proposed installation of a telephone mast in the midst of the residential area of Western Avenue.

We feel this is a most inappropriate area and would like to register our objections to this going ahead on the following grounds:-

Effect on property values in what is currently a sought after residential area.

Possible health risks particularly as location is very close to local primary school.

Will be an eyesore in what is an attractive tree lined avenue.

Engineers working on mast are likely to cause noise and disruption and increase traffic problems in area.

Whilst we appreciate there is a commercial need for these masts to be erected, we would suggest that there are many areas of waste land in the Woodley vicinity where a construction of this type would be unlikely to cause any major problems either to other residents or to the environment.

We must therefore ask you as the representative of our local council to raise the most strongest of protests on our behalf to this installation going ahead.

We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

P Smith

Pat Smith

Your ref: TL/2002/5798

Wisteria House
3 Western Avenue
Woodley
READING
Berks RG5 3BJ

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13 FEB 2002

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	FILE:

Heidi Lynch
P O Box 157 Shute End
Wokingham
Berks RG40 1WR

11th February 2002

Dear Ms Lynch

Proposed 40' Mobile Phone Mast for Western Avenue

I am writing to express my concerns and disapproval for the erection of the Orange mobile phone mast in Western Avenue at its junction with Radcot Close.

My concerns are:

The emission of electromagnetic fields, non ionising radiation, microwave and radon gas. Documented evidence suggests these emissions affect brain function causing headaches, sleep disruption, impairment of short term memory and an increasing predisposition to certain cancers.

Children are at risk, particularly those aged 12 years and under and as a mother of children aged 11 years and 9 years, I am furious that such an erection is even being considered in such a highly populated area. I am informed that the mast will be less than 300 meters from St Dominic Savio Primary School and Pre-School. This is the school that both my children attend, and where I work. The school has approximately 430 children on its role by the end of each school year – do you feel happy putting so many young and vulnerable children at risk by granting permission for this mast?

Noise – I am a very light sleeper. I already have my sleep interrupted by car alarms going off in the middle of the night, I do not want any more interruptions caused by the constant clanging of wires.

Traffic in Western Avenue at school times is very heavy and dangerous enough already. It does not need maintenance vehicles parked alongside the mast for repairs thus causing even more congestion.

TV transmission – there is precious little on the TV worth watching these days, but if I do choose to watch a programme, I want to be able to watch it without any interference caused by the mast.

The environment is constantly being eroded. We have recently had a number of trees demolished for the erection of Steggles Close. I am now informed that the Avenue

Garage has been sold and will be redeveloped into 42 houses, thus causing more trees and shrubs to be demolished no doubt. This has an obvious knock on effect for wildlife.

I am not particularly concerned about the reduction in the value of property but it remains an important point to be considered when discussing this application.

I cannot understand why the mast has to be in a solely residential area. Every week we hear that mobile phone manufacturers are making more staff redundancies because fewer people are buying mobile phones than was expected. So why do they need more masts? If they have to have them why can't they put them on the tops of their own offices on an industrial site miles from anywhere And why have I had to be informed by another resident of Western Avenue about this proposal? Surely Orange have an obligation to fully inform anyone who may be affected by the mast, of its intentions, and the dangers that arise?

I look forward to hearing that the application has been refused with no right to appeal.

Yours sincerely

S. Mellor

Shirley Mellor

Copies of this letter have been sent to:

Teresa May MP
Peter Skinner, Emma Nicholson and Roy Perry, MEPs
Terry Dredge, Councillor
Colin George, Woodley Chronicle
The Governing Body of St Dominic Savio RC School
Wokingham LEA
Fr Joe McNeaney, Priest of St John Bosco RC Church
Western Cottage, 64 Western Avenue

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Jill & Michael LUPTON

77 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berks
RG5 3BL
Tel. 0118 969 1225
Fax 0118 969 1225

Email **Mike.Lupton@btinternet.com**

9th February 2002

Heidi Lynch
Development Control Officer
Reference TL/2002/5798

Planning Application

Proposed erection of 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna on land at junction of Radcot Close & Western Avenue

Dear Heidi

Initially our main concern is that we dispute ownership of the land of the proposed site of the mobile phone mast and cabinet, solicitors have been consulted.

Our next concern is the health aspect. **WHAT IS SAFE?** A lot of guidelines recommend a minimum distance of 500 metres, (we would be lucky to be **50ft away).** Orange propose to erect a mast and cabinet in a densely populated residential area, we have yet to find **anyone,** that would admit to wanting to live in such close proximity to one of these masts, and until there is clear evidence of the safety of these masts, extreme caution should be taken and they should not be erected within 500 metres of a residential area.

Also we cannot see the need for the positioning of a mast here as local residents (on the Orange network) say there is a **perfectly good signal** in the area, (one of them being our immediate neighbour!). The use of mobile phones in a residential area is not essential as most, if not every house in the locality has a land line and is not reliant on a mobile phone anyway.

The siting of these masts and equipment should be placed in an area where people have the choice as to whether they wish to be in close proximity to them or not. The main concern about these masts are for children and **there is a school nearby**, but more importantly in a residential area you find a great many families with pre-school age children who spend most of their life in the home, **these toddlers and babies have no choice**, we should be protecting them, not exposing them to these dangers!

Finally the site (Orange think they can use) know it to be very small, just large enough to install their equipment on (if they are lucky!), **so why pick such a ridiculously small site, in a residential area, by a school, at a road junction, with a very narrow foot path that is used by children on their way *to and from school, in an area that is congested with parked cars at school drop off/ pick up* times**, these are supposedly intelligent people that have gone to all the trouble to find these suitable sites, I think maybe they left their brains at home the day they thought of this one!

One final point, I thought plans that were submitted should be totally accurate, their plans were not, the BT pole is not in the position they say (it is situated **in** the footpath) and also there appears to be a discrepancy in the size of the footpath (we do not believe it to be as large as the scale they have drawn it to).

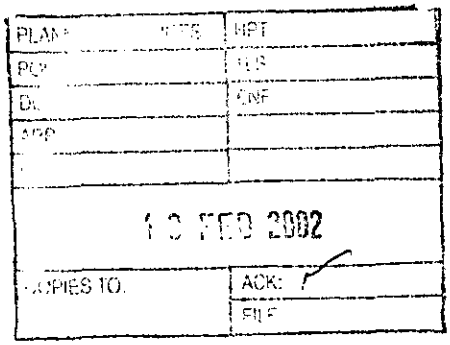
Please consider these points well, as the future and health of todays' children, could be resting on this decision, it is not today or tomorrow, but maybe in 10 years time.

NO ONE KNOWS OF THE SAFETY ASPECT, THERE IS TOO MUCH UNCERTAINTY AND TOO MANY PEOPLE FEEL THIS WAY FOR ANYONE TO BE ABLE TO SAY IN ALL HONESTY '<u>IT IS TOTALLY SAFE</u>'.

Yours sincerely



Jill & Michael Lupton
77 Western Avenue



25 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BJ
Tel: - 0118 3757719

09th February 2002

Heidi Lynch
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

Dear Heidi Lynch

Ref. TL/2002/5798

With regards to the proposed Orange Mobile mast going up in Western Avenue Woodley.

I am very concerned the idea of this proposal as I have a young family and knowing the health hazards it can cause.

With St. Dominics School very close I am sure every parent will have the same concerns.

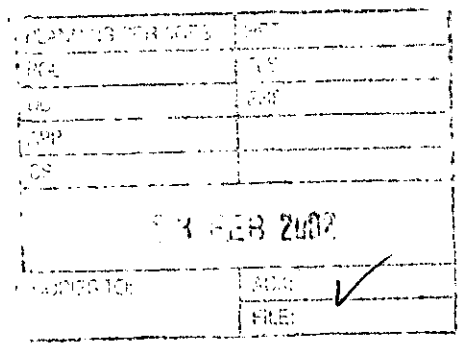
I strongly disagree to this.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Alison Hinton-Redford

46 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berks
RG5 3BH

Tel: 0118 961 8624



10 February, 2002

Ms. Heidi Lynch
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

Ref: TL/2002/5798

Dear Ms Lynch

I object very strongly to plans by the communications company Orange to erect a mobile phone mast in Western Avenue, Woodley.

This is a residential area with an infant/junior school not far from the proposed location.

Aside from the aesthetic impact of such a device in this area, the known health impact, particularly on young people make this location entirely unsuitable.

I do not wish to stand in the way of progress, and, indeed, am a frequent user of mobile communications myself, but feel certain that there are plenty of locations in this area that would satisfy the needs of Orange Communications, and that are a suitable distance from residential concentrations or schools. I urge you most strongly to reject this proposal in favour of a more appropriate location.

Sincerely

Martin Aust
Western Avenue Resident

Copies to:
Teresa May MP
Emma Nicholson MEP
Terry Dredge, Councillor
Peter Skinner MEP
Roy Perry MEP
Colin George, Woodley Chronicle

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
POL	TLS
DC	BNF
APP	
CS	
11 FEB 2002	
COPIES TO:	ACK
	FILE

Already Wrote

Ms Hedi Lynch
Wokingham Council
Planning Service
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR

Mr S Hall
Dormar
Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
RG5 3BH

8th February 2002

RE: PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE TL/2002/5798

Dear Ms Lynch

Further to my letter of the 7th February 2002.

Please disregard the aforementioned letter which was sent in error. I have enclosed for your attention an updated letter which supersedes. Apologizes for any inconveniences this may have caused.

Yours faithfully

PP N.S.

S. Hall

Ms Hedi Lynch
Wokingham Council
Planning Service
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR

Mr S Hall
Dormar
Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
RG5 3BH

7th February 2002

RE: PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE TL/2002/5798

Dear Ms Lynch

I write to voice my objections to the above planning application.

To place such an unsightly obelisk within a residential location can only result in bringing down the tone of the area. Not to mention the questionable health risks (being in such close proximity) this would place on local residents.

Both of the aforementioned can only result in a devaluation of property (ie no one if given a choice would wish to live directly under such an umbrella)

Yours faithfully

S. Hall

Received by Wokingham District Council

Application No: TL/2002/5798

Proposal:
Proposed erection of 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna.

Location:
Land At Junction Of Radcot Close &, Western Avenue, Woodley, Reading.

The application is available for inspection at Wokingham District Council's offices during the following times:

PLANNING DEPARTMENT, SHUTE END, WOKINGHAM TEL (0118) 974 6428
8.30 - 5.00 Monday - Thursday & 8.30 - 4.00 Friday

WOODLEY LIBRARY HEADLEY ROAD WOODLEY 9.30am - 7.00pm Mon, Thurs & Fri. 9.30am - 5.00pm Tues, 9.30am - 1.00pm Saturday and 1.00pm - 4.00pm Sunday. Library closed all day Wednesday. If you intend to view this application at Woodley Library please allow 4 days from the date of this letter for delivery of plans and remember to quote application number TL/2002/5798 to enable the library staff to locate the correct information.

Comments should be sent in writing QUOTING THE APPLICATION NUMBER to the Case Officer Heidi Lynch P.O. Box 157 Council Offices, Shute End, Wokingham Berkshire, RG40 1WR to arrive on or before 24/02/2002. Written comments submitted will become available for public inspection.

In view of the very large number of planning applications and letters of comment received, it will not be possible for an individual reply to be issued to observations made. However any comments will be taken into account when the application is determined and you will be notified of the decision.

Head Planning and Transportation

01 February 2002

ADDITIONAL NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION SHEET

APPLICATION NUMBER: TL/2002/5798
CASE OFFICER: Heidi Lynch

ADDRESS OF ADDITIONAL NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION	NUMBER OF DAYS FOR RESPONSE	DATE LETTER ISSUED (for Admin use)

Application Number : TL/2002/5798	Map No :
Case Officer : Heidi Lynch	Site Area : 0 01
Valid Date : 31 JAN 2002	Received Date: 31/01/2002

Level : Delegated Application

Description : Proposed erection of 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna.

Location : Land At Junction Of Radcot Close &, Western Avenue, Woodley, Reading.

Parish : WY Ward : COR

Applicant : Orange PCSL C/O Patrick Farfan.

Fee Required: £190 Fee Received: £190 (4)

Additional: ..... or Refund: .....

Enforcement Section to be notified ☐ (tick if required)

Additional information required for validation;

REASON	NOTES	DATE REQ	DATE RECD
LOCATION PLANS			
BLOCK PLANS			
FORMS UNSIGNED			
S.66 MISSING/INCORRECT/ UNSIGNED			
ELEVATION PLANS			
FLOOR PLANS			
NO SCALE OR SCALE IS IMPERIAL			
ENCROACHMENT LETTER REQUIRED			
OTHER			

Is the site in a Conservation Area: ☐ Yes ☐ No I f "Yes" which one _____

Is the site a Listed Building: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is a Statutory Advertisement required: ☐ Yes ☐ No

INTERNAL CONSULTATIONS

Building Control

Heritage (Harold Sanders)

Landscape

Trees

Environmental Health

Housing

Leisure & Cultural Services

Public Rights of Way Officer

Property

Policy & Plans

Joint Strategic Planning Unit

Archaeological Officer (BABTIE)

Education

Social Services

Highways

EXTERNAL CONSULTATIONS

Adjacent DPA : _____

Adjacent Parish : _____

SEB

British Gas

Oil pipeline

Transco

Environment Agency

Railtrack

Police Arch Officer

HERITAGE BODIES

Victorian Society
The Georgian Group
Ancient Monuments Society
Council for British Arch
RCHME
NRPB (Telecommunications)
Sport England
Society for Proct' of Ancient Bldgs
English Heritage

OTHERS

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

NEIGHBOURS

See map.....

.....

.....

5798

Received 2002 5798

Patrick Farfan
ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Our Ref: BRK7031
Your Ref:

Salamander Quay West
Park Lane
Harefield
Middlesex
UB9 6NZ

Tel +44 (0)1895 823700
Fax +44 (0)1895 821214
frog@patrickfarfan.com
www.patrickfarfan.com

The District Planning Officer
Wokingham District Council,
PO Box No.157,
Shute End,
Wokingham,
Berkshire,
RG40 1WR.

30 January 2002

Dear Sirs

NOTICE

Proposed installation of Orange PCS Ltd Microcell BRK7031 at: Northern Footway, Junction Western Avenue/Radcot Close, Woodley, Reading, Berkshire, RG5 3BL.

Notice of intention to install telecommunications apparatus pursuant to:

1. The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (England) Order 2001 (Schedule 2 Part 24).

2. The licence granted to Orange Personal Communications Limited under Section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984.

I confirm that we act on behalf of Orange PCS Ltd in submitting this application.

Background and Need

Orange Personal Communications Services Ltd is a Telecommunications Code System Operator. The Orange Network is in direct commercial competition with other communications systems, both wire free and fixed line/cable. Orange Personal Communication Services Limited is licensed under the Telecommunications Act 1984 to run a mobile radio telecommunications system and to provide mobile radio telecommunication services.

In addition to voice transmissions there is an increasing need for the transmission of data also. To this end Orange has purchased a UMTS Licence as auctioned recently by the British Government. A further range of services is to be offered to the public and businesses including direct Internet access and video pictures, wire free, via the mobile phone, giving the consumer a more competitive and wider choice of services to choose from.

Orange 3G Ltd has been licensed to provide and maintain a UMTS telecommunications service to an area where at least 80% of the population of the UK live by 31 December 2007.

Cont...

REFUSED

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Offices throughout the UK and Europe.

Registered in England Company Reg No 2875575 VAT Reg No GB 628944109

Patrick Farfan
ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Mobile phone usage has grown exponentially since its introduction and has now developed to a point where the existing infrastructure is struggling to cope with the sheer number of users. As well as upgrading existing sites, new sites are required to facilitate:-

a. growth, (both short term and to meet projected demands on the service)

b. coverage, (the ability to deliver a service to the customer and uphold licence obligations)

c. Third generation technology.

The Orange Network is in direct commercial competition with other communications systems such as BT and cable operators.

Orange are sensitive to the fact that many residential settlement locations do not lend themselves to the siting of Macrocells, commonly Rooftop Stub Masts or 15m high lattice masts or columns with a 12m square fenced compound from a siting and appearance aspect.

With a requirement to provide a service to residential and commercial properties, in keeping with the Code of Best Practice, Orange have taken advantage of improvements in technology to reduce visual impact and developed the Microcell, the proposal fulfils PPG8 Appendix – Supporting Guidance paragraph 77 "*The telecommunications industry is encouraged to continue to develop innovative design solutions, in terms not only of the structure of masts and antennas but also the materials and colouring. A number of different design solutions are currently available. These include masts designed to look like trees or street furniture*".

The Proposal

This is a stand-alone steel column with an internally mounted telecommunications antenna. It has been designed to match existing street furniture such as Lampposts or telegraph poles. The base of the column has a diameter of 0.219m, which narrows to 0.167m for the upper 9.8 m, comparable to many other items of street furniture.

However, unlike BT, Orange do not need to site telegraph poles every 30m or so, they do not need to fly overhead lines or, unlike Cable Operators, dig up miles of footway and carriageway.

Orange need only deploy a limited number of carefully sited telecommunications columns to provide coverage to the entire local area. The column and cabinet can be painted to match a particular Local Authority colour scheme if required.

Although the proposal is for an item of street furniture that exceeds the height of other equipment in the locality, this is not seen as causing an adverse impact within the street scene. A recent appeal decision in Watford considered two such microcells, in that case, each being 10m in height with existing lamp columns being 6 - 7 m. The Inspector stated in allowing the appeal, "Although taller than the numerous steel and concrete lamp columns, the pole would share the same fundamental character of a neat and slender item of street furniture. ...The proposed pole would be significantly taller than these features but would nevertheless be seen in the company of existing street furniture of a slender and vertical character. The very proximity of the nearest house at 23 Stratford way also means that the pole would be seen in close association with the much bulkier structure." Appeal Refs APP/Y1945/A01/1060758&9.

Cont...

Patrick Farfan
ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Microcell technology has been in use for some time and these small, low powered installations have successfully been deployed in cities, towns, villages and sensitive areas all over the UK.

Orange propose just one Microcell site to cover the residential area north of Woodford Park

Orange Personal Communications Ltd hereby give notice as required under the terms of their Licence and make application for determination with regard to details of siting and appearance pursuant to Part 24, Class A, Condition A.2(4A) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (England) Order 2001 in respect of the following development:

The erection of a free-standing telecommunications steel column maximum 11.8m in height with 1 No omni directional antenna will be installed.

In conjunction with the above column, an equipment cabinet will also be installed with an overall dimension of 0.98 cubic metres.

Location. OS Grid Ref: E 476020 N174050

Address. Northern Footway, Junction Western Avenue/Radcot Close, Woodley, Reading, Berkshire, RG5 3BL

Enclosures: Planning Drawing Nos. 30/BRK7031/01
Location plan (1:1250)
Site Layout plan (1:100 & 1:250)
Elevations of column and cabinet (1:100)

Copy of Developers notice.

Technical information including confirmation of ICNIRP compliance and power output.

Prescribed Fee. £190.00.

Justification

The area is defined primarily as urban, meaning that Orange requires coverage levels of >=-75dBm or better. This is defined on the coverage drive by areas coloured orange, red or pink. Those areas coloured green, blue or black show insufficient coverage for our requirements. The figure of >=–75dBm was evaluated to ensure that an Orange customer will be able to make a mobile phone call inside a building, without the call cutting out due to poor coverage levels. The calculation is based on the Oftel confidence level of a two-minute call having a 95% success rate of completion. As shown by the coverage drive, the required coverage level is not achieved in much of the target coverage area. For clarity, a second coverage drive has been included showing the same drive in two colours. Orange shows sufficient level of coverage for Orange's requirements, and blue shows insufficient levels of coverage. Clearly, there is a substantial amount of blue signal level in the area surrounding the site.

Cont...

The north Woodley area is planned with a Orange Micro cell, which are designed with very localised coverage. This aims to give a good level of coverage within between 200 to 500 metres of the site, dependent on the type of the site.

The proposed site location was chosen for the following reasons:-

1. The increase in mobile phone usage has placed a strain on existing Orange installations in the locality, where they are struggling to provide satisfactory network coverage to existing customers, due to the lack of mobile radio base stations in the immediate area.

2. This area is presently a network coverage blackspot due to its distance from adjacent base stations at BRK0088 Headley Park and BRK0013 Bulmershe. High trees in the vicinity of BRK0088 Headley Park further shield the signal.

3. The base station's call-carrying resources are operating at the maximum and no additional calls can be carried. This can result in the 'Network Busy' message being displayed on the phone and a subscriber will be unable to make a call, even though their phone may be indicating a number of signal bars.

4. It will improve coverage in the area north of Woodford Park, unless additional sites are added to the network to make sufficient traffic channels available in the area, Orange customers will experience blocked calls.

5. The Microcell is a low powered installation and cell coverage is typically 500m max, depending on topography and surrounding screening such as trees and tall buildings.

6. The height of the slender profile column in this location close to the cell centre will maximise coverage and limit the number of installations.

7. The proposed location is within the public highway. Adjacent low trees will soften the impact of the column.

8. The column and cabinet are of similar dimensions to other street furniture in the general area so as to blend with the existing street scene.

9. The site is not within a conservation area.

Alternative sites

Other locations considered and rejected include;

a. Ground to the rear of 97 Haddon Drive Woodley RG5 4LY, this location is on the perimeter of the area to be served, 400m from the cell centre. The land is believed to be owned by Woodley Town Council and they are not willing to provide this site, there is less planting to soften the impact.

Cont...

b. Verge adjacent to Substation 42, Ravensbourne Drive, Woodley RG5 4LG, the location is extremely close to residences, no natural landscape features and consequently, visual impact will be greater.

c. Verge junction of Warren Road/Western Drive, very prominent position surrounded by taller trees and close to a school. Highways may have concerns in respect of visibility splays.

d. Woodford Park, no suitable locations, School, Playgrounds, Nurseries, Open parkland, regarded as the more sensitive areas where public interest is heightened. Most of the area covered would not be residential, but open space, therefore not providing an effective service.

e. 'Greens' within residential housing around Ravensbourne Drive/Radcot Close, problems with accessibility and relationship with dwellings.

Technical Considerations

When siting the Microcell Telecommunications column, consideration was given to the use of existing structures. Investigations revealed that there were no mast share opportunities available that could serve the target area or tall buildings to use that would meet the specific technical requirements for achieving coverage in this area.

The siting of the Microcell is critical to maximise coverage whilst keeping the number of installations to a minimum. The purpose of the Microcell is to improve coverage and call capacity at street level and into buildings where the signal from the larger Macrocells is absorbed by buildings, trees etc. This site will provide enhanced coverage for in building coverage around 200-500 m radius of this site.

Signal strength calculations have been provided for this site

For BRK7031 the power density has been calculated to the nearest building, this building is 20m from the proposed site. From these calculations, the maximum power density experienced at the front of the property will be 0.126479W/m^2 or 1.4053% of the maximum public exposure level defined by ICNIRP.

As shown by these calculations, the signal strength is many times below the ICNIRP investigation level for areas accessible to the public. However, these calculations are based on a desktop study, and, in reality, the levels experienced will be many times lower than those calculated. This is because the calculations are based on a 'worst case' scenario and do not take into account the effects of topographic features in the area, such as trees, which would have a negative effect on the signal.

PPG8 Telecommunications paragraph 30 confirms; 'It is the Government's firm view that the planning system is not the place for determining health safeguards. It remains central Government's responsibility to decide what measures are necessary to protect public health. In the Government's view, if a proposed mobile phone base station meets the ICNIRP guidelines for public exposure it should not be necessary for a local planning authority, in processing an application for planning permission or prior approval, to consider further the health aspects and concerns about them.'

Cont...

Whilst PPG8 acknowledges the legal point that health concerns, including public perception can be a material consideration, it does make it very clear the way Government policy expects this to be applied in the planning process.

The slender design of the equipment, is to mitigate the siting and appearance of this installation, due to the reduced power a Microcell has a limited effective radius around 500m. This proposed location is near the centre of the target area. Existing Buildings in the target area are not suitable for affixing Microcell equipment due to their height, construction, location and that they are all residential properties that would be unsuitable for this type of development. There are no existing masts within the cell area.

In addition PPG8 Telecommunications paragraph 31 states; 'In the Government's view, local planning authorities should not implement their own precautionary policies e.g. by way of imposing a ban or moratorium on new telecommunications development or insisting on minimum distances between new telecommunications development and existing development'.

Local Plan Policy

The applicants are aware of Local Plan policies relating to telecommunications, in particular WIC 14. There has, however, been concern in the manner in which this has been applied by your authority. Planning consultants acting for Orange have sought clarification but, unfortunately, replies to letters have not been forthcoming. Nevertheless, it is asserted that the proposal is in accord with the objectives of both your policies and those contained within the Structure Plan.

Although proximity to residential properties should not be an issue, given the degree of compliance with ICNIRP, by considerable factors, the applicants are aware of the sensitivity of this matter. Where practical, an attempt has been made to give a degree of separation. However, given the need to provide coverage to the urban areas, proximity to places occupied by people is inevitable. It should nevertheless be stressed that microcells operate at much lower power than macro base stations.

Conclusions

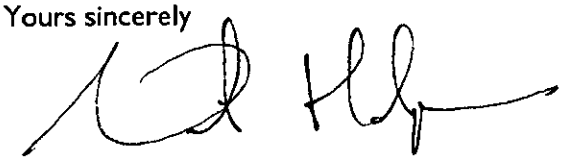
- The application is a prior approval determination where your authority may wish to consider details of siting and design.
- The design is such as to be readily assimilated into the street scene in the way other street furniture has been accommodated.
- Central Government policy is very clear on the manner in which health considerations should be dealt with. The proposal will be fully compliant with the precautionary ICNIRP standards by significant factors.
- An appraisal of alternative sites has revealed that there are no alternatives that would be more suitable than that now proposed.
- The proposal meets the objectives of Local and Structure Plan policies.
- The development strikes the right balance of meeting operator's needs whilst limiting the impact on the environment.

Cont...

Patrick Farfan
ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Please do not hesitate in contacting me if you would like any further information and I would be grateful if you would kindly acknowledge receipt of this letter, the £190.00 fee is enclosed in settlement for charges.

Yours sincerely



Neil Hodgson
Acquisition Consultant

Applicationo	Name & Address
TL/2002/5798	J H Fogarty 97 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Vicky Mealyer Bryher Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mr N J Moulsey 75 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	A H & M Knox 85 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Louise Sutton 9 Selcourt Close WOODLEY RG5 3AS
TL/2002/5798	Mrs Lisa Springgay Rooksmoor Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mrs D Walford 71 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Ann Brown 73, Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Murphy Wyndham Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mr S Hall & Mrs D Hall Dormar Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH

TL/2002/5798	Mrs J Jackson 70 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	P K Popat Edgefield Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	David F Carter & Diane S Carter 51 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BJ
TL/2002/5798	Angela & Michael Powell and Family 64 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Jill and Michael Lupton 77 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Josephine Swanborough 67 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Professor John Wann Portelet 102 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mr M D Weedon 89 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	R T Moxon Staddle Stones 95 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs J & J M Carvell Larstynn 66 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH

TL/2002/5798	C G H Pierce Rowanbury 99 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mrs J Essex A. A. Essex 119 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	F J Fry 91 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	G H Fowler 83 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	T R & P M Smith 1 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BJ
TL/2002/5798	Shirley Mellor Wisteria House 3 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BJ
TL/2002/5798	Martin Aust 46 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mrs Alison Hinton-Redford 25 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BJ

Ack Letters Sent

TL/2002/5798	J M Haslop 22 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs J G Tidmarsh 14 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AP

TL/2002/5798	Mr M Malton 15 Eynsham Close Woodley Berks RG5 4LF
TL/2002/5798	A J Blewitt 38 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr P & Mrs M E Harding 40 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr S & Mrs J Clark 16 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	M & R Curd 44 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr P Woodruff 46 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	E W Camm 12 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	W A Tubb 10 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	M & B Rippingdale 14 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG

TL/2002/5798	Mr T G & Mrs M A Denby 28 Radcot Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	J & K Bundy 42 Radcot Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	S & N Barker 7 Ryecroft Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	Lesley Astbury 1 Ryecroft Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	P & K Rogers & Family 10 Ryecroft Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	R G & S Teagle 5 Ryecroft Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	H J & E P M Davis 11 Ryecroft Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	John Powell 4 Godstow Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Derek Clark 6 Godstow Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LE

TL/2002/5798	P G Blackburn 20 Godstow Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Mr R Mehta 32 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AR
TL/2002/5798	Mr E & Mrs M Sangster 2 Warren Road Woodley Berks RG5 3AP
TL/2002/5798	Hazel Robinson 19 Godstow Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Cooney 7 Godstow Close Woodley Berks RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	R A Stock 9 Godstow Close Woodley Berks RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs A Holtham & Family 11 Godstow Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Mrs Christine Silvey 81 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Ross Taggart 7 Warren Road Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3AP

TL/2002/5798	M G Evans Canford Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	D G Waters 39 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BJ
TL/2002/5798	David & Diane Carter Western House 51 Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BJ
TL/2002/5798	David Nuttman 33 Western Avenue Woodley Berks
TL/2002/5798	Mark Hall 'Dormar' Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	G A Lobo OBE 8 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	D J & C A Ellis 'Cronulla' Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mrs J Curtes 30 Radcot Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BG

TL/2002/5798	T Emberson 15 Warren Road Woodley Berks
TL/2002/5798	A E Humphries 11 Warren Road Woodley Berks RG5 3AP
TL/2002/5798	The Owners/Occupiers 'Coppers' 113 Western Avenue Woodley Berks RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mrs G S Wann 54 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	V A Cheeseman 36 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	R J Brown 32 Radcot Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr Costas Koutovas 5 Godstow Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Mr I S Martin 3 Godstow Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs M Bullock 14 Eynsham Close Woodley Berks RG5 4LF

TL/2002/5798	Mrs Y Brown 10 Eynsham Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LF
TL/2002/5798	P R & J E Burton 69 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mr C B Jackson 70 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	David Provins 78 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs M D Breach 63 Western Avenue Woodley Berks RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Muriel Broome 30 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AR
TL/2002/5798	Mr J & Mrs Y Wilkie 31 Warren Road Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3AR
TL/2002/5798	Mr Paul Clark 51 Lunds Farm Clark Woodley Reading Berks RG5 4PZ

TL/2002/5798	Jonathon Dewsbury 87 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	M Brock Parkfield Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	R G & M J Prescott 103 Western Avenue Woodley Berkshire RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	C Vroome 8 Godstow Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 4L
TL/2002/5798	M J & H Mole 68 Western Avenue Woodley Berks RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Pam & John Prior The Vines Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	G H & S J Martin 30 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Jane Whitwell 105 Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BL

TL/2002/5798	The Warden Family 26 Radcot Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr N G Hollis & Mrs E S Lea 24 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AR
TL/2002/5798	Peter & Carol Jackson 20 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs A L Masters 48 Radcot Close Woodley Berkshire RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Dr L A W & Mrs J E Thelwall 2 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Wright 76 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 3EH
TL/2002/5798	Mr M Di Gregorio 9 Warren Road Woodley Berkshire RG5 3AP
TL/2002/5798	R J G Seary 8 Tiverton Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BE
TL/2002/5798	Peter & Rita Gulliver 1 Warren Road Woodley Berks RG5 3AP

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TL/2002/5798	Mrs J Carol 55 Rochester Avenue Woodley Berks RG5 4NB
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TL/2002/5798	Mr Ian Simpson 'Tamarisk' Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BN
TL/2002/5798	Deborah & Nigel Pitt 67 Ravensbourne Drive Woodley Reading Berks RG5 4LJ
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TL/2002/5798	Mrs L J Coldwell 10 Godstow Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Theresa May MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA
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TL/2002/5798	Clare Buchta 79 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BL

TL/2002/5798	P Kanaar 42A Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BH
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TL/2002/5798	Kevin Buchta 79 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BL
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TL/2002/5798	Miss L Taylor 11 Eynsham Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LF
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TL/2002/5798	C & G Clark 59 Western Avenue Woodley Berks RG5 3BL
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TL/2002/5798	Mrs C Mannering 2 Ryecroft Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	Mr R B Townsend 9 Ryecroft Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Maguire 27 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 3BJ
TL/2002/5798	Mr G & Mrs A Bolger 70 Ravensbourne Road Woodley Reading Berks
TL/2002/5798	H A Murray 12 Ryecroft Close Woodley Berkshire RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	A W Gould 12 Frampton Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BS

TL/2002/5798	Mr Peter Bartholomew 121 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 3BL
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TL/2002/5798	Mrs P Allen 101 Western Avenue Woodley Berkshire RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mrs V M Thomas 115 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	The Owner/Occupier 12 Sellafield Way Lower Earley Reading Berks RG6 3BT
TL/2002/5798	D K & M J Gilbert 52 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr R Allan 50 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Cox 12 Worrall Way Lower Earley Reading Berkshire RG6 4AW

TL/2002/5798	Mr M Gray 7 Corbett Gardens Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 4JY
TL/2002/5798	M M & B L Brennan 462 Reading Road Winnersh Wokingham Berks RG41 5ET
TL/2002/5798	Mrs B MacBeth 4 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Barratt 5 Keane Close Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 4LG
TL/2002/5798	Mrs A P Sweeney 58 Radcot Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	John Farrington 37 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AR
TL/2002/5798	Joanna E Farrington 37 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AR
Acknowledgement letters sent 22/02/02 (PS)	

WOKINGHAM UNITARY
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Applicationo	Name & Addres
TL/2002/5798	J H Fogarty 97 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Vicky Mealyer Bryher Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mr N J Moulsey 75 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	A H & M Knox 85 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Louise Sutton 9 Selcourt Close WOODLEY RG5 3AS
TL/2002/5798	Mrs Lisa Springgay Rooksmoor Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mrs D Walford 71 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Ann Brown 73, Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Murphy Wyndham Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mr S Hall & Mrs D Hall Dormar Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH

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TL/2002/5798	Mrs J Jackson 70 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	P K Popat Edgefield Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	David F Carter & Diane S Carter 51 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BJ
TL/2002/5798	Angela & Michael Powell and Family 64 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Jill and Michael Lupton 77 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Josephine Swanborough 67 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Professor John Wann Portelet 102 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mr M D Weedon 89 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	R T Moxon Staddle Stones 95 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs J & J M Carvell Larstynn 66 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH

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TL/2002/5798	C G H Pierce Rowanbury 99 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mrs J Essex A. A. Essex 119 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	F J Fry 91 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	G H Fowler 83 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	T R & P M Smith 1 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BJ
TL/2002/5798	Shirley Mellor Wisteria House 3 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BJ
TL/2002/5798	Martin Aust 46 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mrs Alison Hinton-Redford 25 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BJ

Ack Letters Sent

TL/2002/5798	J M Haslop 22 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs J G Tidmarsh 14 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AP

WOKINGHAM UNITARY
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TL/2002/5798	Mr M Malton 15 Eynsham Close Woodley Berks RG5 4LF
TL/2002/5798	A J Blewitt 38 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr P & Mrs M E Harding 40 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr S & Mrs J Clark 16 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	M & R Curd 44 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr P Woodruff 46 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	E W Camm 12 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	W A Tubb 10 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	M & B Rippingdale 14 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG



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TL/2002/5798	Mr T G & Mrs M A Denby 28 Radcot Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	J & K Bundy 42 Radcot Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	S & N Barker 7 Ryecroft Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	Lesley Astbury 1 Ryecroft Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	P & K Rogers & Family 10 Ryecroft Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	R G & S Teagle 5 Ryecroft Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	H J & E P M Davis 11 Ryecroft Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BP
TL/2002/5798	John Powell 4 Godstow Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Derek Clark 6 Godstow Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LE

WOKINGHAM UNITARY
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TL/2002/5798	P G Blackburn 20 Godstow Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Mr R Mehta 32 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AR
TL/2002/5798	Mr E & Mrs M Sangster 2 Warren Road Woodley Berks RG5 3AP
TL/2002/5798	Hazel Robinson 19 Godstow Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Cooney 7 Godstow Close Woodley Berks RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	R A Stock 9 Godstow Close Woodley Berks RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs A Holtham & Family 11 Godstow Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 4LE
TL/2002/5798	Mrs Christine Silvey 81 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Ross Taggart 7 Warren Road Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3AP

WOKINGHAM UNITARY
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TL/2002/5798	M G Evans Canford Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	D G Waters 39 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BJ
TL/2002/5798	David & Diane Carter Western House 51 Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BJ
TL/2002/5798	David Nuttman 33 Western Avenue Woodley Berks
TL/2002/5798	Mark Hall 'Dormar' Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	G A Lobo OBE 8 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	D J & C A Ellis 'Cronulla' Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mrs J Curtes 30 Radcot Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BG

TL/2002/5798	T Emberson 15 Warren Road Woodley Berks
TL/2002/5798	A E Humphries 11 Warren Road Woodley Berks RG5 3AP
TL/2002/5798	The Owners/Occupiers 'Coppers' 113 Western Avenue Woodley Berks RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mrs G S Wann 54 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
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TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs M Bullock 14 Eynsham Close Woodley Berks RG5 4LF

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TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs M D Breach 63 Western Avenue Woodley Berks RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Muriel Broome 30 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AR
TL/2002/5798	Mr J & Mrs Y Wilkie 31 Warren Road Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3AR
TL/2002/5798	Mr Paul Clark 51 Lunds Farm Road Woodley Reading Berks RG5 4PZ

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TL/2002/5798	R G & M J Prescott 103 Western Avenue Woodley Berkshire RG5 3BL
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TL/2002/5798	M J & H Mole 68 Western Avenue Woodley Berks RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Pam & John Prior The Vines Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	G H & S J Martin 30 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Jane Whitwell 105 Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BL

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TL/2002/5798	The Warden Family 26 Radcot Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr N G Hollis & Mrs E S Lea 24 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AR
TL/2002/5798	Peter & Carol Jackson 20 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs A L Masters 48 Radcot Close Woodley Berkshire RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Dr L A W & Mrs J E Thelwall 2 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Wright 76 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 3EH
TL/2002/5798	Mr M Di Gregorio 9 Warren Road Woodley Berkshire RG5 3AP
TL/2002/5798	R J G Seary 8 Tiverton Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BE
TL/2002/5798	Peter & Rita Gulliver 1 Warren Road Woodley Berks RG5 3AP



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TL/2002/5798	F Pemberton 75 Ravensbourne Drive Woodley Reading RG5 4LJ
TL/2002/5798	W A Andrews 109 Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mrs J Carol 55 Rochester Avenue Woodley Berks RG5 4NB
TL/2002/5798	Mr R Niedzwiedzki 24 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
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TL/2002/5798	Mr Ian Simpson 'Tamarisk' Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BN
TL/2002/5798	Deborah & Nigel Pitt 67 Ravensbourne Drive Woodley Reading Berks RG5 4LJ
TL/2002/5798	Mrs L Simpson 'Tamarisk' Western Avenue Woodley Reading RG5 3BN



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TL/2002/5798	A W Gould 12 Frampton Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BS



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TL/2002/5798	Mr R Allan 50 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Cox 12 Worrall Way Lower Earley Reading Berkshire RG6 4AW

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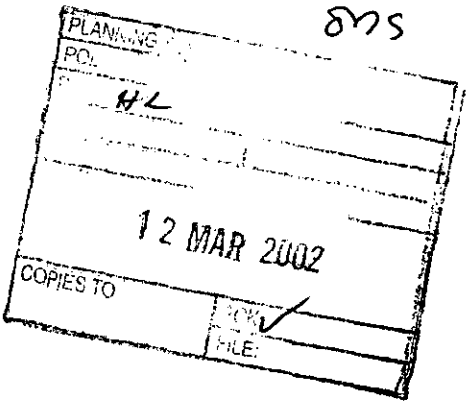
TL/2002/5798	Mrs B MacBeth 4 Radcot Close Woodley Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Barratt 5 Keane Close Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 4LG
TL/2002/5798	Mrs A P Sweeney 58 Radcot Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	John Farrington 37 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AR
TL/2002/5798	Joanna E Farrington 37 Warren Road Woodley Reading RG5 3AR
Acknowledgement letters sent 22/02/02 (PS)	
TL/2002/5798	Mr & Mrs Nixon 18 Conygree Close Lower Earley Reading Berks RG6 4XE



TL/2002/5798	Mrs Janet Allan 7 Steggles Close Woodley Reading RG5 3AH
TL/2002/5798	Robert & Karen Buckley Irescowe Western Avenue Woodley Berks RG5 3BH
TL/2002/5798	Mrs J Swansborough 67 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Mrs A Laws 72 Western Avenue WOODLEY RG5 3BL
TL/2002/5798	Dr Peter Mayes 40 Ravensbourne Drive Woodley Berkshire RG5 4LJ
TL/2002/5798	Brian R Cook 18 Radcot Close Woodley Reading RG5 3BG
TL/2002/5798	Mr S Mercer 16 Lavenham Drive Woodley Reading RG5 4PP
TL/2002/5798	C B Jackson Oaklands 70 Western Avenue Woodley Berks RG5 3BH
Application Refused	Letters sent 13.03.02

Mr and Mrs Wright

76 Western Avenue
Woodley
READING
Berkshire
RG5 3EH



8 March 2002

Heidi Lynch
PO BOX 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks RG40 1WR

Dear Miss Lynch

RE: APPLICATION NO. TL/2002/5798 PROPOSED ERECTION OF 11.8m HIGH FREE STANDING TELECOMMUNICATIONS COLUMN WITH 1 OMNI DIRECTIONAL ANTENNA – LAND AT JUNCTION OF RADCOT CLOSE AND WESTERN AVENUE.

We are writing to register our objections to the above application which if approved will be within 50 yards of our property.

Our objections to the above proposal are as follows:

1. **VISUAL AMENITY:** We believe that a mast of this nature will be harmful to the visual amenity of the area as it will be close to 40' high. Western Avenue is a tree-lined road and such a proposal will be out of keeping with the local environment and will be an eyesore. In addition it would appear that no amount of landscaping would obscure this ugly monstrosity.
2. **NOISE POLLUTION:** These columns are known to whistle in high winds and the cabinets are also known to emit a buzzing noise which would be unacceptable in this residential neighbourhood.
3. **HIGHWAYS:** These masts require routine maintenance and are also known to breakdown on occasion. Its position on a busy through road and directly opposite a junction could cause dangers on the highway and possibly the footpath. Can the council ensure that Orange would not obstruct either the highway or the footpath when carrying out maintenance? It should also be noted that the ownership of the land in question is in dispute.
4. **SAFETY:** It is likely that given its location in a residential area children will attempt to climb the mast or the cabinet. Surely the best location for such a mast would be in a more remote and inaccessible position away from a residential area.

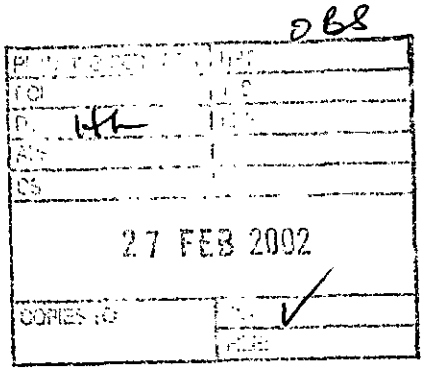
5. **RADIATION:** It would appear that no exclusion zone has been considered in accordance with the Stewart Report for the IEGMP (MAY2000) which called for a prohibition on masts of this nature close to people until more is known about the potential health risks. We are concerned that this principle has not been considered at all as Western Avenue is residential area with a school within 300 metres of the proposed mast.
6. **ENVIRONMENT:** The mast could possibly cause damage to the local wildlife and could also significantly interfere with radio, television and electrical equipment and we would ask whether the applicant has demonstrated in any way that this will not be the case. Additionally have other agencies such as Environmental Health and the Radiocommunication Agency been consulted? We also understand that Government guidance states that wherever possible sites for masts such as this should be shared and we would like to know whether this has in fact been at all considered? It would appear that there are a number of masts elsewhere where sites could be shared.
7. **CONSULTATION:** We are concerned that insufficient time has been allowed for consultation in this important matter and would question whether the time allowed is in accordance with the regulations.
8. **NUISANCE:** We understand that much of the maintenance is carried out at night with bright arc lights which would obviously cause a disturbance to families within the area and this should be considered unacceptable. In ordinary planning terms such a business use would not be permitted in a residential area.

We believe that for the above reasons, Wokingham District Council should refuse this application. Apart from the above issues, the question of health needs to be addressed as it would appear that more and more evidence is coming to light which suggests that these masts can cause cancer and damage to the brain particularly in young children. As this is a residential area consisting of mainly families and as there is a school nearby, it is clear that the risk of health damage would be high. I have a young family with 4 children under the age of 13 and this matter is of grave concern to my wife and I. We believe that the Council should commission their own independent research into the potential health hazards caused by these masts in a similar manner to Redbridge Borough Council before they permit any further masts in residential areas within the District.

Yours sincerely

Ian Wright

Ian and Helen Wright



3 Ryecroft Close
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3BP.

16th February 2002

Dear Ms. Lynch
Planning Application Ref. TL/2002/5798.

With regard to the above planning application made by Orange PCSL I wish to record my objection to the siting of the Mast at Western Avenue /Radcot Close.

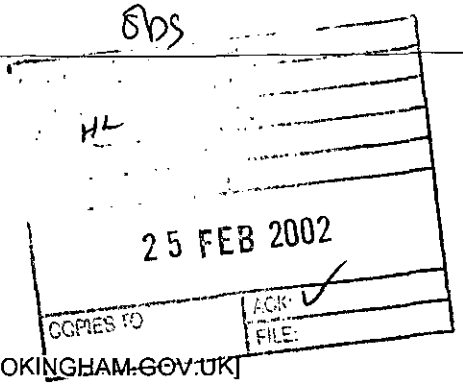
In my opinion - if the Mast has to be located in this area there are surely equally suitable sites outside of the populated areas of Woodley. I am sure that the Mast designers and constructors believe that their product is safe but as the technology has not yet proven in time and there is a considerable amount of speculation with regard to the health risks of this method of communication, I would have thought that it is our duty to "play safe" on behalf of the children who will work and play within the vicinity of the mast.

I therefore ask the planning committee and their officers to refuse this application.

Yours faithfully

R Bates

Carol Hurst



From: Ian Jordan
Sent: 23 February 2002 20:45
To: Carol Hurst
Subject: FW: Comments on Planning Applications

From: WebComments@wokingham.gov.uk[SMTP:WEBCOMMENTS@WOKINGHAM.GOV.UK]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2002 8:49:36 PM
To: ian.jordan@wokingham.gov.uk
Subject: Comments on Planning Applications
Auto forwarded by a Rule

****

NatureofEmail: Object
ApplicationNumber: TL/2002/5798
Correspondent_FullName: Mr & Mrs Nixon
Correspondent_StreetAddress: 18 Conygree Close
Correspondent_Address2: Lower Earley
Correspondent_Town: Reading
Correspondent_County: Berks
Correspondent_PostCode: RG6 4XE
Correspondent_Telephone:
Correspondent_Email:

Comments:

F.A.O Ms Heidi Lynch
We have recently been advised that "Orange" have applied for planning to erect a mast by our Children's school, St. Dominic Savio's, which we strongly object too, it is far too close to the playground and school.

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
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04 MAR 2002	
CORRES TO	ACK
	FILE

David Carter
Western House
51 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3BJ

12th February 2002

Dear Mrs May,

I really would appreciate it if you could review the attached letter to Wokingham District Council.

We are fighting to stop the erection of a mobile phone mast that will emit microwave radiation in a suburban avenue. The radiation area is also the home of a primary school (children under 12 are particularly vunerable).

We would appreciate any assistance you could offer us to stop this madness.

Very best regards

David F. Carter

David & Diane Carter
Western House,
51 Western Avenue
Woodley,
Reading RG5 3BJ

12th February 2002

Planning & Development Dept
Wokingham District Council

FAO Heidi Lynch – Planning Case Officer

Dear Ms Lynch

Re: Application For Development by Telecommunications Code System Operators
Permitted Development Application No. TL/2002/5798 - By Orange Communications Ltd.
Location of Proposed Mast Erection – Land at Western Avenue / Radcot Close

Please find detailed below my observations and official objections to the proposed development.

Objection – Health concerns: We (all of us) do not know enough about the short, medium & long term risks associated with constant bombardment by microwave radiation. This technology has not yet been proved as safe. I (and the majority of my neighbours) have deep-seated concerns and worries regarding mobile masts and their perceived detrimental effect on health grounds. Current research on this matter has merely concentrated on the effects of tissue heating only from microwave emitting antenna. There is, however, a large body of scientific research that now challenges this view with regard to other possible symptoms such as increased cancer risk, sterility, effects on heart pacemakers etc.
This must be seriously considered by a district council who pride themselves on their attitude towards individual health & the environment.

Objection – That the "precautionary principle" recommended in the Government commissioned Stewart Report for the IEGMP (May 2000), which calls for a cessation in the erection of masts close to people until more was known about the possible health effects of masts, appears to have been ignored in this case.

Objection – I note that the PPG8 Appendix para 64 states that masts are a particular height which allows signals to clear trees and suburban clutter (houses?) and that Telecommunications development may need particular locations in order to work effectively. However, it also states that these prominent locations may be exactly the locations that would pose challenges to policies for the protection of high quality landscapes and quality in suburban areas. This is an alteration to the previous advise that had the specific height of 20 metres, that being the case it suggests, therefore that masts below 20m in height cannot achieve satisfactory performance due to the proximity of this urban clutter – a 40 foot high mast (in this example) would therefore appear wholly useless, **unless a high powered emitter was installed to regain this shortfall**. Is it then the case that local residents should be 'slow cooked' as they sleep in their beds, as this is what microwaves do, after all? Many people, consider the Western Avenue area to be a quality suburban area within locality – please do not ruin what is arguably the nicest road in Woodley.

Objection – I cannot see that any consideration (or more importantly, evidence) that suggests that ORANGE have considered mast sharing or sharing an existing site in the area as an alternative to developing this amenity as a new mast site. The Government has attached considerable importance to mast sharing in keeping the numbers of sites and installations to a minimum PPG 8, Para. 19 to 23. Conditions in code operators' licences require applicants to explore the possibility of site or mast sharing in the first instance – this evidence should accompany any application made to the local planning authority whether a prior approval application under Part 24 of the GPDO or an application for planning permission under the T&CPA 1990 . Other telecommunication operators (One to One, Vodafone, BT Cellnet) cannot refuse this request unless there is a demonstrable reason why not, as the Director General of OFTEL has powers to force shared use for this very reason. If not mast sharing, operators are at least encouraged to site new masts alongside existing ones on sites already deemed suitable for this purpose. It is not apparent from any correspondence or information available for viewing at the Council Offices that mast sharing was ever considered.

Objection – I suspect that the Council has a biased commercial interest in the development due to the potential rental income generated by this privately owned structure being situated on Wokingham District Council land.

Objection – That the proposed development in no way benefits the local community. Mobile 'phone coverage is more than adequate in this area – the new mast is simply a commercial venture by Orange in order to 'capture' a wider area of the district away from this locality.

Objection – That the proposed development is out of character with Western Avenue. A mast with little or no screening is not going to blend in at all with the local area, so ensuring further detriment.

Objection – That with the expected future concerns on mobile 'phone mast safety being similar to those recently raised regarding overhead power lines and television broadcast antennae, private property values will plummet in areas where masts have been erected in or near to residential properties.
I have just spent £70,000 in the last 12 months on extending my property. I would not have invested the money knowing that such a development may take place.
A number of residents have already taken legal advice. The summary has been that if a local authority allow a development to commence that reduces the value of resident's estate, then this action warrants compensation. The can occur in three main areas:

1. An immediate Council tax rebate as the council have indirectly reduced the value of resident's properties.
2. An independent real estate consultant would assess the drop in value of all associated properties..... the difference would be claimed by the residents.
3. Any potential health problems would cost the district valuable health service resource.

Please consider - US and other European countries stipulate a minimum exclusion zone of 500m from mast sites to the vulnerable. The Stewart Report also recommends such exclusion zones Paras 1.44-1.48 Stewart Report.

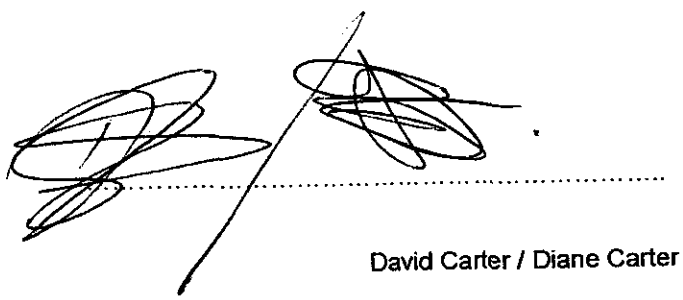
Objection – That the development may have significant and irremediable interference with other electrical equipment of any kind. This can be material planning consideration according to PPG 8, Appendix Para. 102.

Objection – That the development will cause widespread physical interference and disruption to existing television and other telecommunication services due to the physical obstruction or reflection of the wanted signals. Local Authorities need to have taken into account that the potential for interference has been fully considered in the siting and design of this development, as it would be impossible to correct this situation after the site becomes operational. This also can be material planning consideration according to PPG 8, Para. 33.

Objection – My final (most important) objection is on behalf of my two-year-old son.
Children under 12 years are particularly vunerable to microwave radiation.
They are more susceptible to genetic damage which could affect their academic development..... **St Dominics Primary school is less than 300 metres from the proposed site.**

Observation – Under current legislation, including the aforementioned relevant Health & Safety Guidelines and the European Human Rights Act, there is already the very real potential for individual litigation processes to be instigated against Local Authorities, corporate bodies or individuals involved in any way in the approval, erection and operation of apparatus proposed in this and similar applications. It is therefore advised that you seriously consider investigating the legality and consequences, whether current or future, of your involvement in any approval of this and other similar applications in this Borough.
I look forward to your official response to the points raised above, before the cut-off date mentioned previously is reached – please do not allow a lack of response on the Council's behalf to be responsible for this irresponsible development proceeding by default. I urge you to reject this application.

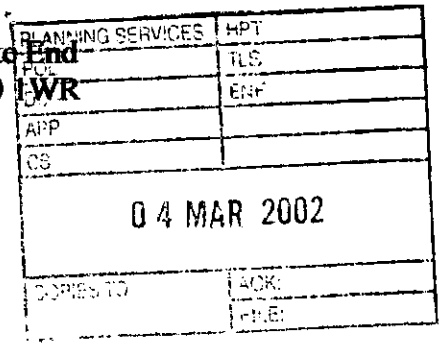
Yours faithfully



David Carter / Diane Carter

Tel: (Daytime) 07803 133 979, (Evening) 0118 96 999 96

P.O. Box 157 Shute End
Wokingham RG40 1WR



39 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire RG5 3BJ

0118 969 3065

13 February 2002

Dear Ms Lynch,

MOBILE PHONE MAST IN WESTERN AVENUE
REF TL/2002/5798

Please register my strong protest against the siting of this mast for the following reasons.

HEALTH RISK As I understand it there is a finite or unknown risk to health due to the electromagnetic field strengths necessary for the operation of the phone links. The siting near residential property, a school and a well supported church is then very ill chosen.

VISUAL BLIGHT The avenue is a particularly pleasant area and much property improvement has taken place over the last few years, as your own building files will show. The houses with a view of the mast are the most affected by the structure, of course, but all residents, together with attendees at church and school will have to look at it in passing.

PROPERTY VALUE The value of property generally will be lowered by this development. What COMPENSATION is there? Will COUNCIL TAX BE REDUCED? What is the answer?

THE SITE Who has sold the land? Is it a private vendor or is it council land? If you don`t know please advise where I can find out.

Yours sincerely,

D.G.Waters.

Copies Teresa May MP
Terry Dredge

119 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BL

11 February 2002

PLANNING SERVICES | HPT
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DC | ENF
APP |
CS |
04 MAR 2002
ACK:

Teresa May MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mrs May,

Please find enclosed copy of a letter of objection to a proposed aerial mast for Western Avenue, Woodley.
Any support that you can lend to this case would be very much appreciated.
Yours sincerely

Mr A Essex

Tel. +44 118 969 6390 Fax. +44 118 927 2152 Mobile. +44 7831 385013 E-Mail. tony.essex@ntlworld.com

119 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BL

11 February 2002

Heidi Lynch
Planning Dept.
Wokingham District Council
P.O. Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks
RG40 1WR

Dear Ms Lynch

RE: PLANNING APPLICATION No. TL/2002/5798

ERECTION OF TELECOMMUNICATION MAST ON LAND AT RADCOT CLOSE &, LAND AT JUNCTION OF, WESTERN AVENUE, WOODLEY

I write in objection to the proposed erection of a telecommunication mast and ancillary building on land situate at **Radcot Close &, Land At Junction Of, Western Avenue, Woodley**. The siting and design of the proposed mast will detract from, and adversely affect the amenity of the locality. I urge the local authority to invoke your powers under Article 4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995. I am sure the committee will agree that it would be expedient in order to protect the amenity of the locality, and for the good planning of the area, that an Article 4 order should be made.

As you will be aware, there are a large number of conflicting academic reports on the dangers of irradiation emitted from base stations. With this in mind I urge you to follow the recommendation of the Stewart Report, and adopt a **precautionary approach** *(see para 1.21 and 6.16 of that report)* in deciding applications for telecommunication base stations. This approach as you will be aware is enshrined within national planning policy structure of the UK, as well as European legislation ***(Please refer to the Government White Paper "This Common Inheritance", PPG23 "Planning and Pollution Control" and "Sustainable Development - the UK Strategy", as well as being enshrined in the Treaty of European Union (Maastricht, 1992; in force from 1.11.93) - Title XVI: Environment, Article 130r)***:

Tel. +44 118 969 6390 Fax. +44 118 927 2152 Mobile. +44 7831 385013 E-Mail. tony.essex@ntlworld.com

Article 130r

"1) Community policy on the environment shall contribute to pursuit of the following objectives:

- *preserving, protecting and improving the quality of the environment;*
- ***protecting human health;***
- *prudent and rational utilisation of natural resources;*
- ***Promoting measures at international level to deal with regional or worldwide environmental problems.***

2) Community policy on the environment shall aim at a high level of protection taking into account the diversity of situations in the various regions of the Community. ***It shall be based on the precautionary principles that preventative action should be taken, that environmental damage should be rectified at source and that the polluter should pay...*** *(p39)"*

The Stewart Report states at para 1.19:

We conclude therefore that it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and that the gaps in knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach'.

I am very concerned that the biological affects and irradiation emmitted from the proposed development will affect not only my own health but that of my family, and those visiting my home. As such I urge you to use the power confered upon you by para 29 of PPG8 and attach considerable weight to the fear that the majority of local residents have.

The Stewart Report recommends that exclusion zones are placed around all base stations, and indeed some countries already have exclusion zones. This recommendation clearly indicates that there is a potential for concern in placing masts close to sensitive locations such as schools, hospitals and residential areas.

Exclusion Zones (1.44)

We recommend the establishment of clearly defined physical exclusion zones around base station antennas, which delineate areas within which exposure guidelines may be exceeded (paragraph 6.49 – 6.52). The incorporation of exclusion zones should be part of the template of planning protocols that we advocate.

Physical Barriers (1.45)

Each exclusion zone should be defined by a physical barrier and a readily identifiable nationally agreed sign with a logo. This should inform the public and workers that inside the exclusion zone there might be RF emissions which exceed national guidelines.

The government recommends that local authorities do not take health effects into consideration, however many local authorities are rejecting these recommendations including Kent County Council, which refuses to endorse consents on any council land, due to their concerns over health. I would also draw your attention to the case pending before the High Court for leave to apply for judicial review of a base station

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on the question of the LPA failing to take into account the health aspects of masts *(R v Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council ex parte Smith).*
Should this application be decided in favour of the Claimant then question marks will be put over all masts where the health issues were not taken into account.
However, even if a rejection of the arguments relating to the precautionary approach is taken by the planning committee, we would urge you to consider the effect the size and design of this mast will have on the amenity of the local area, towering as it will some 11.8 metres (almost 40 ft) into the air, which will contrast with the residential nature/open aspect of the locality. PPG8 makes it clear that a rejection of permitted development permission is acceptable for base stations should the LPA conclude that it would have an adverse effect on the amenity of the area. I also take this opportunity to draw your attention to the factors listed in ***PPG8 Annex 1 para 13*** that may involve siting:

- *the height of the site in relation to surrounding land;*
- *the existence of topographical features and natural vegetation;*
- *the effect on the skyline or horizon;*
- *the site when observed from any side, including from outside the authority's own area;*
- *the site in relation to areas designated locally for their scenic or conservation value;*
- *the site in relation to existing masts, structures or buildings, including buildings of a historical or traditional character;*
- *>the site in relation to residential property; and*
- *any other relevant considerations* ***e.g. local primary school, St Dominic's, Western Avenue.***

There is as you will be aware an obligation contained within PPG8 for operators to hold talks with local authorities, and recommendations that these discussions should also include other organisations such as local residents groups. Could you therefore supply me with information relating to these meetings, in particular the out come of the obligatory talks that the local authority held with the Operator, along with details of any residents groups who took part, or were invited to take part in these discussions.
Whilst reserving the right to make further representation on this application, I urge you to refuse permission for the above reasons.
Yours sincerely

A.A.Essex
Local resident

Tel. +44 118 969 6390 Fax. +44 118 927 2152 Mobile. +44 7831 385013 E-Mail. tony.essex@ntlworld.com

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119 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BL

11 February 2002

Teresa May MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mrs May,

Please find enclosed copy of a letter of objection to a proposed aerial mast for Western Avenue, Woodley.
Any support that you can lend to this case would be very much appreciated.
Yours sincerely

Mrs J Essex

Tel. +44 118 969 6390 Fax. +44 118 927 2152 Mobile. +44 7831 385013 E-Mail. tony.essex@ntlworld.com

119 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BL

11 February 2002

Heidi Lynch
Planning Dept.
Wokingham District Council
P.O. Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks
RG40 1WR

Dear Ms Lynch

RE: PLANNING APPLICATION No. TL/2002/5798

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Whilst reserving the right to make further representation on this application, I urge you to refuse permission for the above reasons.
Yours sincerely

Mrs J Essex
Local resident

Tel. +44 118 969 6390 Fax. +44 118 927 2152 Mobile. +44 7831 385013 E-Mail. tony.essex@ntlworld.com

T R & P M Smith
1 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 3BJ
Telephone 0118 9694803

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Teresa May MP
House of Commons London
SW1A 0AA

February 12, 2002

Dear Ms May

Proposed Installation of Telephone Mast in Western Avenue Woodley

I am approaching you for assistance in opposing the proposed location of a telephone mast in the Western Avenue area of Woodley Berkshire.

I enclose a copy of my letter to Wokingham District Council for your information and trust that the local residents can count on you for support in this matter.

Yours sincerely

P Smith

Pat Smith (Mrs)

T R & P M Smith
1 Western Avenue Woodley Reading Berkshire RG5 3BJ
Telephone 0118 9694803

Heidi Lynch
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks
RG40 1WR

February 12, 2002

Dear Ms Lynch

Proposed Installation of Telephone Mast in Western Avenue Woodley

I am writing on behalf on my husband and I to register our most strong objections to the proposed installation of a telephone mast in the midst of the residential area of Western Avenue.

We feel this is a most inappropriate area and would like to register our objections to this going ahead on the following grounds:-

- Effect on property values in what is currently a sought after residential area.
- Possible health risks particularly as location is very close to local primary school.
- Will be an eyesore in what is an attractive tree lined avenue.
- Engineers working on mast are likely to cause noise and disruption and increase traffic problems in area.

Whilst we appreciate there is a commercial need for these masts to be erected, we would suggest that there are many areas of waste land in the Woodley vicinity where a construction of this type would be unlikely to cause any major problems either to other residents or to the environment.

We must therefore ask you as the representative of our local council to raise the most strongest of protests on our behalf to this installation going ahead.

We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

Pat Smith

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04 MAR 2002

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	FILE:

Western Cottage
64 Western Avenue
Woodley, RG5 3BH
8th February 2002

Teresa May MP
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

Dear Ms May,

40ft Mobile Phone Mast Proposal for Western Avenue, Woodley

Please can you help, we are currently under notice that a 40ft mobile phone mast is to be erected by Orange PCSL in our street.

As you can see from the enclosed letter to the Planning Unit we are greatly concerned about the health risks and disruption to our families and our lives that this application presents. We live in a densely populated residential area with a primary school less than 300 meters from the proposed mast site.

Wokingham & Woodley Council appear to be offering no objections to this installation saying that our concerns over health are not enough to prevent the mast being approved, even though they are using the same objections to avoid installations near council owned sites quoting moral duty. This stance is in direct breach of the *"Precautionary Principle"* recommended by the Stewart Report {6.39} which implies that councils should not approve masts, of whatever height, within a dense residential area. I quote the Stewart Report as it appears to be the definitive document to date on this issue and it concludes by stating *"it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach."* {6.39}

Taking a balance between possible risks and potential benefits is therefore a priority and surely placing a mast next to a primary school and in a highly populated residential area which already has sufficient mobile phone coverage means potential long term health risks to our children does outweigh the benefits when mobile coverage is already satisfactory.

Wokingham Council are not subscribing to the precautionary approach recommended. Do we not have a right to expect the council to do this and act on our behalf against this installation?

I would implore you to offer assistance & support us in preventing this application either in the form of guidance or if you could personally attend the next local council planning meeting to be held at 8pm on the 5th March at Woodford Park Leisure Centre, Woodley.

Yours sincerely

Michael & Angela Powell

Western Cottage
64 Western Avenue
Woodley, RG5 3BH
8th February 2002

Heidi Lynch
Development Control Officer
Wokingham Unitary Environment Planning Services

Ref: Heidi Lynch TL/2002/5798 40ft tall Phone Mast Proposal for Western Avenue

We are writing to lodge our formal objections to the above application by Orange PCSL to carry out a telecommunications development within Western Avenue - a densely populated residential area.

We are extremely concerned that Wokingham Council are even considering this application given that the mast will be erected within 300 meters of a primary school populated by approximately 400 children under the age of 11. No doubt Orange favour the "catch them young" approach but as a Council you surely have a moral duty to safe guard our children from potential harm.

These are the factors causing us fear and concern;

- **Health risks**; It is now well documented that emissions from phone masts and their base stations are harmful to humans affecting brain function and causing headaches, sleep disruption, impairment of short term memory and an increasing predisposition to cancer. Some of these may not be life threatening but they will have a debilitating effect on our families well being. A continual & potentially harmful cocktail of emissions is not something we want to be slow cooked by whilst we sleep at night. When clear and unequivocal concerns are being publicised by national health organisations on the health effects that constant bombardment by microwave radiation cause how can Wokingham Council give any lea way to mobile phone operators on the installation of masts in such close proximity to houses and schools. Our home lies within 250 mtrs of the proposed site.

- **Our children are at risk**; Children below the age of 12 are particularly vulnerable. Their nervous systems are still developing and this makes them more susceptible to genetic damage which in turn may undermine their neurological and academic development. There is evidence of an increase in cancer amongst young children living close to masts and an increase in seizures amongst those children with epilepsy. If our children attend St Dominics School, as is our intent, they will spend the next **11 years** being exposed to low level emissions of RF radiation 24 hours a day.

- ***Mobile Phone Coverage;*** *There is currently adequate mobile phone coverage in the* area so the benefits of a mast installation in an area of satisfactory coverage surely are questionable.

- **Property Value;** A mast will depreciate the value of our home.

- **Visual Amenity;** Due to the location of the proposed site it seems unlikely that any screening or landscaping of the mast site will take place. The area does not appear wide enough to allow for screening / landscaping etc. let alone room for the base station cabinets or their ongoing maintenance - will we have to walk in the road whilst maintenance takes place? The result will be a danger to pedestrians, including those children walking to St Dominics, and an *acute eyesore* in what is otherwise a beautiful residential tree lined avenue.

- **Notification**; There is no planning notice visible at the proposed site location, plans were still not available for viewing at Woodley Library this week therefore effectively ensuring that we have had considerably less time to consider options and take action - is this an oversight or are the residents being excluded from the consultation process and denied the right to reject a planning application.

- **General Disruption;** Will Wokingham Council prevent other mobile phone companies adding equipment to an existing mast, called mast sharing, will you prevent the addition of new masts alongside an existing one. Will you monitor the increase in power output and ensure that we are not being put at further risk? Who will manage the continual need for maintenance work and how it should take place? Will maintenance works be notified in advance to residents? Will maintenance work occur during unsociable hours?

- **Noise;** I am concerned that the continual banging and clanking of fall arrest wires, lightening tapes etc. will be a source of persistent irritation and will prevent our family from sleeping at night. Western Avenue is currently a very quiet road, even the nearby train line can not be heard due the extremely deep cutting, therefore any extraneous noise will impact on a wide number of residents not just those directly nest to the proposed site.

- **Quality of Life;** We do not have unrealistic "jackpot winning" quality of life expectations we simply hope for a long, happy and healthy existence in a safe and peaceful environment away from risk and harm where our children can grow up strong, healthy and happy and go on to do well in the world. Are Wokingham Council really expecting to deprive us of that right too?

Given that the concerns and fears of local residents seem to far outweigh the slight benefits that Orange may obtain and that the factors outlined above will have a **severe impact** on our lives I implore Wokingham Council to reject this application.

If we have to have more masts in Woodley, please consider more suitable sites such as the often vacant allotment fields less than 1/2 mile away, **and advise Orange that under no circumstances can a mast be installed in Western Avenue.**

Yours sincerely

M Powell

Angela & Michael Powell
on behalf of our children

C.C
Teresa May, MP
Peter Skinner, Emma Nicholson & Roy Perry, MEP
T. Dredge. T. McCann & M. Leonard, Councillors
Colin George, Woodley Chronicle

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70 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berks
RG5 3BH

Ms Heidi Lynch
Wokingham Council Planning Services
PO Box 157
Wokingham
Berks
RG10 1WR

9th February 2002

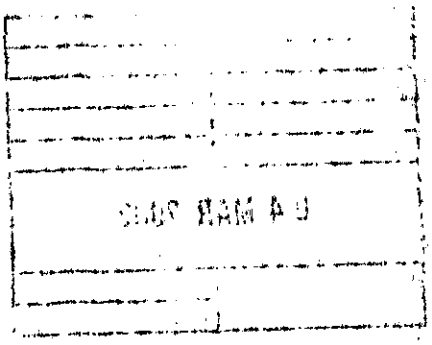
Ref : Application **TL/2002/579**

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch,

I am writing to you about the above application to bring to your attention my concerns.

I live with my family which includes three young children within very close proximity of the proposed mast. I have been informed that my family will be living within the area which will receive the worst effects of any long term impact from the emissions. So far there have been no long term studies in the UK to confirm that there are links between this kind of exposure and serious illness, however in America, New Zealand and a number of other European Countries this type of application is only allowed if there is an exclusion zone of 500m. I do not think that it would be possible for Orange to find a situation in a more densely populated area full of children and families. This situation even includes St Dominic's School, a large school full of infants and junior children who will absorb up to 60% more RF radiation than adults. I cannot help feeling that there must be other sites which would be more appropriate causing less anxiety.



Western Avenue is an extremely busy road often filled with cars parked along the roadside and next to this site for parents taking their children to St Dominic's School. The addition of vehicles required for the erection and maintenance of this mask would surely add to an already dangerous road. This site is also situated opposite a junction with poor visibility when cars are parked for the school. I am sure that the local traffic wardens could confirm this.

My son owns an orange mobile phone which he frequently uses in our home and has absolutely no problem with the transmission whatsoever, so I question whether the mast is really necessary anyway

I understand from my investigations that The Scottish Parliament are now debating whether new mobile phone masts should require full planning permission amid fears that they may be linked to ill health. Kent Council could become the first local authority in the country to ban the erection of new masks on council land of property such as schools. It is thought that many other authorities may follow suit.

I am also very concerned that if this application goes ahead, in the future if we decide to sell our house, no one will want to buy it. We have worked very hard to buy our own house; if this application goes ahead I will no longer feel that I am providing a safe environment for my children.

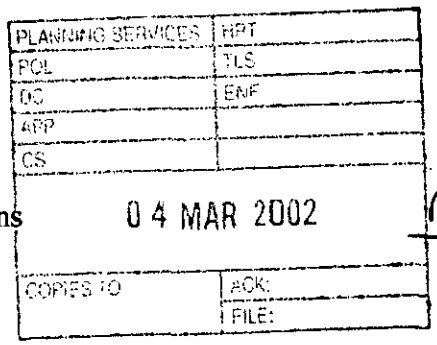
I really hope that you will listen to the concerns of the local community and refuse this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

J. Jackson

Mrs.J.Jackson

13, Western Avenue, Woodley, Berkshire RG5 3BJ. Tel. 0118 969 3276



Teresa May M.P.
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

REF: TL/2002/5798

Dear Mrs May

Proposed Orange Phone Mast in Western Avenue Woodley

We are writing to ask for your support. We are strongly opposed to the proposed phone mast to be located in Western Avenue, Woodley. While we appreciate that mobile phones are here to stay we believe it is incumbent on the phone companies to seek to place their masts in locations which do not affect other people's lives.

The proposed site is in a residential area, a few hundred yards from a primary school. The potential risks to health caused by emissions from such masts has been well documented. Children under twelve are particularly vulnerable. We do not believe it is worth the risk.

The site does not lend itself to the possibility of screening the mast. We find it difficult to believe that allowing such an eyesore in a very attractive tree lined road would in any way enhance the lives of the residents. The potential for increased traffic from maintenance engineers would, we believe, be an additional hazard especially when parents are delivering or collecting their children or there is a service at the Catholic Church nearby.

If the local authority feels it has a responsibility to phone companies then it should be able to offer a site away from houses and schools.

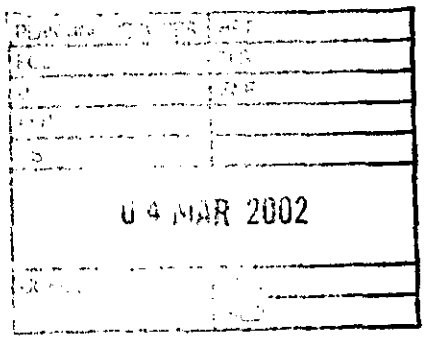
We hope you will be able to support these objections.

Yours sincerely

R.E. Ogden B.A. Ogden

R.E. & B.A. Ogden

28 Radcot Close
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3BG
0118 969 8902



13 February 2002

Dear Mrs May,

Re: Erection of Telecommunications Mast at Junction of Radcot Close & Western Avenue, Woodley

We have written this letter to you to respectfully ask for your support in objecting to the proposed plans by Orange to erect a telecommunications mast close to our property.

You will see from the address above, that our house is situated in Radcot Close and we are extremely concerned about the proposed plans.

There is considerable uncertainty within the scientific community about the long-term damage these masts can cause to general health – particularly in young people. The plans for the mast show that our house, along with all the others in Radcot Close (and a number of other properties) is within the strongest RF field of the mast.

In addition to this concern, we are also extremely unhappy with the unsightly aspect of this mast, which will be directly visible from a good part of the Close. Together, these impacts will create a further issue in that the value of my property is likely to be reduced.

We cannot understand why a mast of this size has to be sited so close to residential properties. Whilst we both admit to using a mobile telephone and accept their usefulness, ourselves, our family and friends have used the Cellnet and Vodaphone networks in and near our home with no issues. Given this, why cannot Orange be persuaded (or even forced) to share an existing mast?

We are very conscious that we do not want to appear to be NIMBYs (not in my back yard), but if mast sharing is not an option, why cannot the mast be sited where it will have much less visual and environmental impact. If the mast were to be sited a few hundred yards down Western Avenue towards Butts Hill Road, the direct impact on the number of houses and the number of people within the immediate RF footprint would be considerably reduced. Better still, the mast could be sited in the centre of Woodford Park where there would be no immediate impact on permanent residential dwellings in close proximity.

We do hope that you can find it within yourself to support us and the other concerned residents of Radcot Close in this matter. We have signed a copy of a general letter to the council that was distributed by John Wann and we will also be sending a personal letter of our own with regard to this issue to hopefully add more weight to the protest.

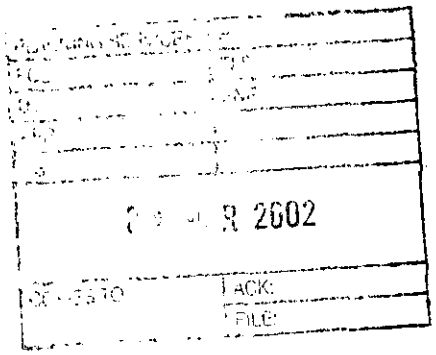
We have been residents in our home in Radcot Close for almost 21 years and have always been very happy living in Woodley and with the way that the town has been managed. We are desperately hoping that Woodley Town Council, Wokingham District Council and our local political representatives can support local residents against a plan that will disrupt and potentially damage the lives of a considerable number of citizens.

Can you please support this protest by doing whatever is in your power to oppose the plans so that the mast is not erected.

Yours faithfully,

T G Denby M.A. Denby

Terry & Marion Denby



69 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berks
RG5 3BL

Mrs Teresa May MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A OAA

13 February 2002

Application No. TL/2002/5798

Dear Mrs May,

PROPOSED 11.8m ORANGE plc TELECOMMUNICATIONS COLUMN AT WESTERN AVENUE/ RADCOT CLOSE, WOODLEY

We are writing to express our concerns over the above proposal. We have written similarly to the Development Control Officer at Wokingham Unitary but hope you will support our concerns for the following reasons.

There is controversy over the ownership of the area of land on which the mast would be sited. The Ordnance Survey plan differs from the original deeds of the adjacent properties. Wokingham Unitary have received separate notification and details of this. This fundamental discrepancy requires satisfactory investigation.

We also object on the grounds of health and safety, in view of the very close proximity to residential property. We understand that Woodley Council successfully objected to an earlier proposal to site a mast in Woodford Park - a large area where a mast could have been sited well away from residential housing. Their successful objections, leading to the rejection of that proposal, must surely hold the same relevance for the siting of a mast at Western Avenue/Radcot Close.

We understand that the proposal does not require planning permission, will not therefore go before a committee and, as it comes under recent government revised legislation, will simply be dealt with by the Development Control Officer appointed at Wokingham Unitary. We are concerned that the Council will concede to this proposal simply on the grounds that, should a refusal go to appeal, the Council might be liable to costs. Local residents who bought their property in an environmentally safe area which is a pleasant place to live, and have paid their council taxes, deserve the respect and protection of the Council when controversial issues are proposed such as this.

A further concern of ours is that we have been made aware that the Highways Department wrote to Orange in November last year, giving their consent to this proposal three months before local residents were informed. It seems the formal process is now being rushed through to the detriment of residents.

We understand that you will be familiar with the immediate area in which this mast is proposed to be sited. We shall be glad of any help and assistance you might be able to offer to ensure that local fears concerning health and safety are addressed by the local authority.

Yours sincerely,

P R & J E BURTON

Tel. (0118) 974 6482

Date: 01 February 2002

My Ref: Heidi Lynch TL/2002/5798

The Owner / Occupier
69
WESTERN CONSULTANTS
WESTERN AVENUE
WOODLEY
READING
RG5 3BL

WOKINGHAM UNITARY
Aiming for Excellence
Environmental Services Department
Planning Services
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR
Tel: (0118) 974 6000
Fax: (0118) 974 6484
Minicom No: (0118) 974 6991
DX: 33506 – Wokingham

Dear Sir/Madam

Application Number: TL/2002/5798

Site Address: Land At Junction Of Radcot Close &, Western Avenue, Woodley, Reading.

Proposal: Proposed erection of 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna.

We have been consulted by Orange PCSL of their intention to carry out the above mentioned telecommunications development.

The application can be viewed at this office from 8.30am to 5.00pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am to 4.00 Friday or at Woodley Library, Headley Road, Woodley from 9.30am to 7.00pm Monday, Thursday and Friday, 9.30am to 5.00pm Tuesdays and 9.30am to 1.00pm Saturdays. The library is closed all day on Wednesdays. **If you intend to view this application at Woodley Library please allow 4 days from the date of this letter for delivery of plans and remember to take this letter with you or quote application number TL/2002/5798 to enable the library staff to locate the correct information.**

If you have any comments regarding this proposal they must be made in writing and addressed to the case office, **Heidi Lynch**, quoting application number **TL/2002/5798** & should you have any queries please contact the case officer on **(0118) 974 6482.**

All comments must be received within 21 days of the date of this letter and will be open to public view.

Yours faithfully,

Heidi Lynch

Development Control Officer

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22 Radcot Close
Woodley
Berks
RG5 3BG

0118-969-8146

Mrs T May
New Lodge
Mustard Lane
Sonning-on-Thames
Berks

13/2/02

Dear Mrs May

I am writing to you as a close resident to ask for your assistance with a planning application for a telecommunications mast to be erected in Western Avenue. Application Number TL/2002/5798 dated 1/2/02.

There appears to have been an explosion of mast development activity in the Woodley area over the last year despite few complaints from local people on signal strength from their mobiles. Just last weekend a new mast was being erected close to St Johns Church. Orange, the applying company, appear to want the mast to cover a small pocket of 200 metres diameter. They do not appear to have considered mast sharing or other significant ways of avoiding the problem.

Whilst I appreciate that this activity falls within the remit of the Local Planning Authority, I am asking for your help as the local MP and person of the area. There appears to be a lack of pre-planned locations within the Wokingham area as advised by the Government. In addition the Telecommunications Companies appear to be striking at will with variable technical data to support their applications. Orange alone indicate they need a mast every 200-500 m to support their micro-cell approach.

I will be sending a suitable letter to WDC objecting to this development. I realise that this government has decided that health effects should not be considered grounds for rejection despite ambiguity in the evidence. The St John Boscoe Primary school is within the main radiation boundary of the proposed site.

Thank you for reading this letter.

Yours sincerely

J M Haslop

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Warren Road
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3AR

Tel 0118 9 693506

14-Feb-02

Dear Miss Lynch,

Mobile Phone Mast - Western Avenue
TL/2002/5798

I object to this proposal.

The benefits of mobile communication appliances are outweighed in this instance because the site proposed is far too close to houses and a school.

It is accepted that there may possibly be a health risk associated with such a mast and this should be of paramount importance in such a built up area.

I sincerely hope therefore that planning permission will not be given.

Yours sincerely

J.Miller

J.Miller

cc: Mrs Theresa May MP,House of Commons,London SW1A 0AA
Mr T Dredge,67 Welford Close,Woodley,Reading,RG5 4QS

Miss Heidi LYNCH
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham RG40 1WR

Mrs Theresa May,
MP for Windsor & Maidenhead,
House of Commons
Palace of Westminster,
London.

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
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DC	ENF
APP	
CS	
04 MAR 2002	
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16 Lavenham Drive,
Woodley,
Reading.
RG5 4 PP

11th February 2002

Dear Mrs May,

Telephone Masts for Mobiles

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have sent to Wokingham District Council regarding the Vodaphone Mast in the grounds of St Johns Ambulance HQ. When this was initially erected it was a simple trident but following work on the 9th of February it is now quite massive. When first put up I corresponded with Vodaphone, WDC and John Redwood (who was our MP at the time), as it suddenly appeared! Because of the blanket legilation no interest was taken regarding my objection. However, the situation is now somewhat different as there is considerable opposition to these masts.

Owing to the efforts taken to stop a similar aerial being erected, close by, in Duffield Road I am unhappy at what Vodaphone have now done at 'St Johns'. I think I am taking a sensible attitude towards this matter and would like your comments and support. The possible health risk and the effect on property is of great concern.

Yours faithfully,

S Mercer

Stanley Mercer

The Chief Planning Officer,
Council Offices,
Shute End,
Wokingham.
RG40 1WR

16 Lavenham Drive,
Woodley,
Reading
RG5 4PP

11th February 2002

Dear Sir,

MOBILE PHONE AERIALS

There is a Vodaphone aerial at the back of my property situated in the grounds of St Johns Ambulance H Q. When this was initially erected I was not happy but owing to Government Legislation I could only object. Since that time there has recently been a dispute regarding a similar Aerial in Duffield Road and the Council have refused permission for it to be erected.

On Saturday, February 9th, the 'St Johns' Vodaphone Aerial was modified and is now very much larger and taller. I am most unhappy with this and feel very concerned that there may be an increased health risk. Furthermore, I understand there is a maximum limit on height of 15 metres and I wonder whether this has now been exceeded.

It is of some concern that the antenna behind my property may have been enlarged to increase its power because of the Duffield Road failure; is this 'the thin end of the wedge'.

I would like your firm assurance that there is no danger whatsoever to health and that the height limitations have not been exceeded. Can you also confirm that the adjacent housing will not lose any of its value.If there is any risk to the health of those living in the vicinity, then I don't understand why the 'St Johns' aerial can continue to operate. If it was a risk in Duffield road, why is it not a risk here; I think we are entitled to the same treatment as Duffield Road and would welcome your comments and an early reply.

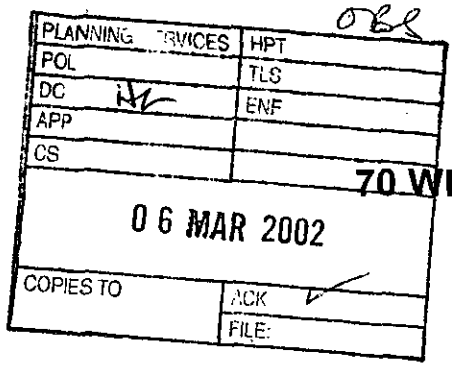
It may be a coincidence but some of the Property in Lavenham Drive overlooking the Aerial seems to change hands frequently.

Yours faithfully,

Mercer

Stanley Mercer

05 March 2002



OAKLANDS
70 WESTERN AVENUE
WOODLEY
READING
BERKSHIRE
RG5 3BH

Heidi Lynch
Development Control Officer
Wokingham Unitary Environmental Services Department
Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR

Dear Ms Lynch

APPLICATION NUMBER: TL/2002/5798 – PROPOSED ERECTION OF 11.8m HIGH FREESTANDING TELECOMMUNICATIONS COLUMN WITH ONE OMNI DIRECTIONAL ANTENNA

Following our earlier telephone conversation, I am sure you won't mind if I enclose copy correspondence received from our Local MP and Member of European Parliament who are both supporting the objections raised by the local residents in relation to the above mentioned Planning Application. I have also enclosed an article in last week's Daily Mail which, once again, raises the unresolved question of health concerns. By coincidence, I also received a complementary radiation shield from a property developer for use on my mobile 'phone which does nothing to appease ones confidence over the Health & Safety aspects of these telecommunication masts!

On your suggestion, I did speak to Mr Hodgson at Orange Telecommunications who confirmed they would be perfectly happy to site the mast alongside the public facilities in the centre of Woodford Park (which happens to also house the offices of the Woodley Parish Council) but that this was dismissed by the Woodley Parish Council officers as they did not wish to be seen to be profiting from such a politically sensitive use.

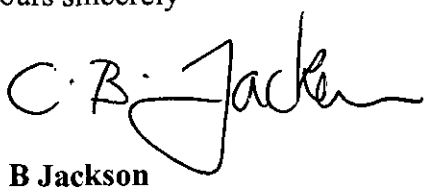
I am, however, aware that Early Parish Council have agreed to host such a mast on Council owned land away from the more sensitive residential areas and that this gesture has also been repeated by the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead who agreed to host a mast on their maintenance depot rather than imposing the installation upon a residential area.

It would, therefore, seem that as these masts are providing a community service and that by locating the mast in the centre of Woodford Park, it would ease the question of maintenance and general accessibility and security in addition to which, the telecom operator is also offering to pay rent for the opportunity. Impact on amenity would equally no longer be an issue.

Bearing in mind the land ownership problems relating to the proposed location, you may like to raise this alternative with the Parish Councillors which we will also be doing at the forthcoming Parish Council Meeting.

Thank you for your ongoing assistance.

Yours sincerely



C B Jackson

Are phone masts the curse of Cancer Street?



By **James Chapman** and **James Orr**

SCIENTISTS are checking mobile phone masts in a road dubbed 'cancer street'.

Five people in Carnarvon Road, East London, have developed the disease in the last seven years.

All live within 30 yards of a three-storey building with 16 phone masts on its roof.

Now Redbridge Council has called in experts from the National Radiological Protection Board to measure radiation in the street.

The £3,250 study could have important implications for people living near the tens of thousands of masts which have sprung up across the UK.

Growing numbers of people are blaming their microwave radiation for health problems and some scientists believe there could be a link, although there is as yet no direct evidence.

The Carnarvon Street victims live in the group of houses nearest to the masts, which first appeared in 1995.

Number 10: Mrs Alfreda Cousins, believed to be in her fifties, and said by neighbours to be 'very ill indeed'. She suffered from breast cancer and may now have a second type.

'It does make me fearful'

Number 12: Retired art teacher and painter Constance Nash, 80, was diagnosed with breast cancer last year and has undergone two operations and gruelling radiotherapy.

She said yesterday: 'There is no history of cancer in my family and I think there could be a link between my illness and the masts.

'The first mast sort of crept up and by Christmas there were 16. We are up in arms about them. We need much more control as to where they are erected.'

Number 14: A 52-year-old woman, who does not want to be named, was diagnosed with breast cancer seven years ago. She has since had an operation to remove a lump and been given radiotherapy.

She said: 'I am trying to be reasonable and not jump to conclusions but none of the people I know had cancer before the masts went up. There seems to be a lot of conflicting information about radiation and it needs to be investigated.

'I think masts should be placed a certain distance away from residential areas – that's a reasonable approach. People's health is more important than money.'

Number 16: A 49-year-old teacher, who also did not wish to be named, was diagnosed with thyroid cancer four years ago. Her treatment was successful but she has to have regular check-ups.



Constance Nash: Up in arms

Number 20: James Parish, 73, diagnosed with bowel cancer five years ago. He had one operation which appears to have caught the disease in time. He is hoping soon to receive the all-clear from his doctors.

Mr Parish and his wife Beryl thought they were just unlucky until they started to hear cancer stories from their neighbours.

'When everybody else started getting it, we began to wonder,' said Mrs Parish. 'The masts are just one big eyesore. If you go in the back garden you can see them, if you go in the front garden you can see them, they are in your face all the time.

'There are young children living in the road now and it does make me fearful. I wouldn't like it to happen to my grandchildren.'

A council spokesman said: 'The concerns began about a year ago when people on the street got together and realised that a number of them had contracted cancer.

'The problem is that we cannot refuse planning applications for masts on health grounds. The current law means that companies can put a mast up and only have to inform us. We then have 56 days to refuse the application.'

The man leading the NRPB investigation, Dr Michael Clark, said initial readings had uncovered 'nothing unusual' in the street.

He said: 'We do measurements of this kind all over the country and the levels we find are typically between 1,000 and 10,000 times below international safety guidelines. That is what we are finding in this street.

'Unfortunately one in three people gets cancer in their lives and you can get clusters for no particular reason. There are a lot of houses here and what may seem like a cluster could be down to nothing more than chance.'

Dr Clark said his team's full findings would be handed to Redbridge Council in three weeks' time.

A recent NRPB report gave phone masts the all-clear after studying more than 100 and concluding that levels of microwave radiation were well within safety limits.

j.chapman@dailymail.co.uk

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Mayfair

020-7355 1818

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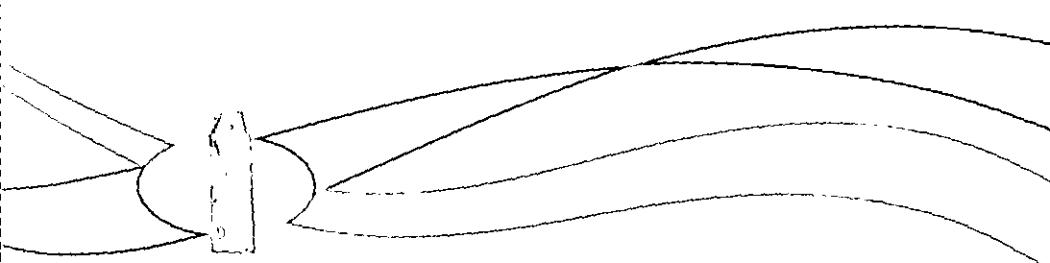

Instructions overleaf

Fairview NEW HOMES Ltd.

question time

instructions

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Radiation Shield is made of a conductive textile designed to block electromagnetic waves.

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CHRISTOPHER WALKER, JOHN COUSINS, 50 LANCASTER ROAD, ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX EN2 0BY
TEL: 020-8366 1271 FAX: 020-8366 0189 DX: 90635 ENFIELD

IAN CLOSIER, NICHOLAS DULCKEN, 41 CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON W1J 7UB
TEL: 020-7355 1818 FAX: 020-7355 2133 DX: 54262 PICCADILLY 1



Peter Skinner MEP

Labour Member of the European Parliament for the South East Region

Constituency Office: 99 Kent Road, Dartford, Kent, DA1 2AJ.
E-Mail: peterskinnermep@southeastoffice.fsnet.co.uk, Tel: 01634 409222, Fax: 01634 409333.
Constituency Assistant: Peter Edwards-Daem

Monday, 25 February 2002

Mrs J Jackson,
70 Western Avenue,
Woodley,Berkshire.
RG5 3BH

Dear Mrs Jackson,

Orange Phone Mast siting, Western Avenue, Woodley

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed siting of an 'Orange' phone mast in the road you reside in.

I can confirm my support for not sighting any mobile phone mast in area's where they will adversely affect the amenity of the locality. In the above case, and with the information available to me it appears that the siting of the Orange phone mast in Western Avenue, Woodley would affect the amenity of the locality.

Many thanks for raising this issue with me.

Yours sincerely,

P. H. Skinner

Peter Skinner MEP

THERESA MAY MP
Shadow Secretary of State for
Transport, Local Government and the Regions

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mrs J Jackson
70 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire RG5 3BH

18 February 2002

Dear Mrs Jackson,

Thank you very much for your letter of 9 February, raising the issue of the Telecoms mast in Western Avenue, Woodley.

You will not be surprised to hear that I have had quite a few letters of complaint and concern regarding this matter.

I have written to Ms Anna Cronin, Head of Planning & Transportation at Wokingham District Council, in which I informed her of these complaints and concerns, of which I share, and I have urged the authority to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely,

MRS THERESA MAY, MP

Tel: 0207 219 5206

Fax: 0207 219 1145

E-mail: mayt@parliament.uk

THERESA MAY MP
Shadow Secretary of State for
Transport, Local Government and the Regions

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

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	FILE:

Ms Anna Cronin
Head of Planning
Wokingham District Council
P O Box 157 Shute End
Reading
Berkshire RG40 1WR

27 February 2002

Dear Ms Cronin,

Re; Planning application No TL/2002/5798
Erection of Telecoms mast on land at Radcot Close and land at junction of Western Avenue Woodley.

Further to my letter of 14 February regarding the above, I am enclosing a significant number of letters from my constituents which express their concerns about the above application.

Yours sincerely,

MRS THERESA MAY, MP

Tel: 0207 219 5206 *Fax: 0207 219 1145*
E-mail: mayt@parliament.uk

Tel. (0118) 974 6426 (Direct Line)
Fax. (0118) 974 6484
Email. Sandra.Bayden@wokingham.gov.uk
Date 4 March 2002
My ref. SB/TL/2002/5798
Your ref.

53769

Mrs Theresa May, MP
Shadow Secretary of State for
Transport, Local Government and the Regions
House of Commons
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

Environmental Services Department
Planning Services
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR
Minicom No: (0118) 974 6991
DX: 33506 – Wokingham
http://www.wokingham.gov.uk

Dear Mrs May

PLANNING APPLICATION TL/2002/5798
ERECTION OF TELECOMS MAST ON LAND AT RADCOT CLOSE AND LAND AT JUNCTION OF WESTERN AVENUE, WOODLEY

Thank you for your letter of 27 February, addressed to Anna Cronin, enclosing letters of objection from your constituents on the above planning application.

These have been passed to the case officer, Heidi Lynch, and the comments contained therein will be taken into account before a decision is made.

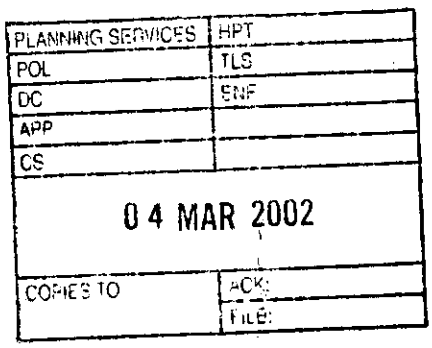
I hope this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

SB

SANDRA BAYDEN
Management Support Assistant (Planning Services)

25 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BJ
Tel: - 0118 3757719



09th February 2002

Teresa May MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Teresa May

I have just been made aware that there is a proposal by Orange Mobile Phone to install a 40ft mast on our road (Western AV).

I am very concerned the idea of this proposal as I have a young family and knowing the health hazards it can cause.

The proposed site is 300 metres away from St. Dominics School, which I am sure every parent will have the same concerns.

I strongly disagree to this, I hope you can help.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Alison Hinton-Redford

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FILE:

85 Western Avenue
Woodley
RG5 3BL

8th February 2002

Mrs T May
Member of Parliament for Maidenhead
House of Commons - Palace of Westminster
London

Dear Mrs May,

We've recently received a letter from Heidi Lynch, Development Control Officer of the Wokingham Unitary Planning Service concerning Application TL/2002/5798. This refers to the proposed erection of an **11.8 m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna** to be placed on land bordering the edge of the pavement in Western Avenue, Woodley within 80 paces of our front door.

We have replied with our objections to Woodley Town Council but we are now appealing to you for assistance, who as our Member of Parliament, can offer a louder voice than our local authority.

Our objections are as follows:-

1. This mast will tower above all the houses in Western Ave. and adjoining roads. It will be unreasonably intrusive. We are unaware of planing permision being granted for such a tall mast in a totally residential area.

2. The maintenance required, using a large crane will be a hazard in a road already congested by school traffic and public transport.

3. Initially there will be a mast to which, we understand, further antennae will be added as the demand for mobile phones increases.

4. There are several sites on higher ground away from busy roads and houses within the area on which to erect a mast.

We would be most grateful for any help you are able to offer in our efforts to prevent this commercial mast blighting this residential area of Woodley.

Yours sincerely,

Alan H Knox

M. Knox

Mary Knox

Mrs Theresa May
MP for Maidenhead
House Of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Monday 11 February 2002

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David Provins
78 Western Avenue
Woodley
READING
RG5 3BH

provins@pellfoldparthos.co.uk
0118 969 3698

Dear Mrs Theresa May,

I am sure, and indeed hope, this is not the only communication you are receiving on the matter of the Orange mobile phone mast in Western Avenue, Woodley. Please, please do all you can to stop Wokingham DC allowing this erection in such a populated area.

We all have mobiles and must have the means to send the signals but lets keep the masts away from residential property.

The way Wokingham DC treats planning for Woodley and Lower Earley always appears to be without care and consideration. In other words lets keep development away from Wokingham. This is the case with this proposed erection, no one is concerned that the column is on the edge of the road. It is certainly in an area of young children both at school and at home. The column is only a few meters away from many properties. In other parts of this country and America it appears 250mtrs and 500mtrs is the restriction to property. Why is Wokingham DC and the Government so foolish over what certainly has some health problems ?

Please do your best, your assistance will help so much.

Thank you.

e5e7b1c5fd8a9eb4530b91abdd31871e (Signed with an electronic signature in accordance with subsection 7(3) of the Electronic Communications Act 2000)

FAO the MP: If you'd rather receive email please drop us a line at mps@faxyourmp.com and we'll replace these faxes with emails. We will not publish your email address. Alternatively you may send a fax or leave a voicemail on 0845 334 2041. We'd also like to hear from you if we've got your fax number wrong, or if you are receiving abusive faxes. Thanks - The FaxYourMP.com Team

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Dormar
Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3BH

12th February 2002

Teresa May MP
House Of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Ms May,

As one of your constituents, I would like to draw your attention to a planning approval request, submitted by Orange PCSL, to Wokingham District Council, for the installation of a 40 foot mobile phone mast in our residential street.

I have enclosed a copy of my letter of objection sent to Ms Heidi Lynch, Wokingham Council Planning Services, PO Box 157, Wokingham RG10 1WR.

All comments regarding this proposal have to be received at the Council offices by 20th February 2002.

The residents of Western Avenue are strongly opposing this planning request, for the reasons outlined in the letter, if planning permission were granted, this would be a severe intrusion to our human rights, to enjoy our chosen living environment.

I request that as our MP, you take an interest in this proposal and our extremely valid objections.

Thank you for your time in reading this letter,

Yours sincerely,

D Hall

Doreen Hall (Mrs)

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach." [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely:

Name: DOREEN HALL

Address: DORMAR, WESTERN AVENUE, WOODLEY, READING RG5 3BH.

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

Your ref: TL/2002/5798

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FILE:

Wisteria House
3 Western Avenue
Woodley
READING
Berks RG5 3BJ

Heidi Lynch
P O Box 157 Shute End
Wokingham
Berks RG40 1WR

11th February 2002

Dear Ms Lynch

Proposed 40' Mobile Phone Mast for Western Avenue

I am writing to express my concerns and disapproval for the erection of the Orange mobile phone mast in Western Avenue at its junction with Radcot Close.

My concerns are:

The emission of electromagnetic fields, non ionising radiation, microwave and radon gas. Documented evidence suggests these emissions affect brain function causing headaches, sleep disruption, impairment of short term memory and an increasing predisposition to certain cancers.

Children are at risk, particularly those aged 12 years and under and as a mother of children aged 11 years and 9 years, I am furious that such an erection is even being considered in such a highly populated area. I am informed that the mast will be less than 300 meters from St Dominic Savio Primary School and Pre-School. This is the school that both my children attend, and where I work. The school has approximately 430 children on its role by the end of each school year – do you feel happy putting so many young and vulnerable children at risk by granting permission for this mast?

Noise – I am a very light sleeper. I already have my sleep interrupted by car alarms going off in the middle of the night, I do not want any more interruptions caused by the constant clanging of wires.

Traffic in Western Avenue at school times is very heavy and dangerous enough already. It does not need maintenance vehicles parked alongside the mast for repairs thus causing even more congestion.

TV transmission – there is precious little on the TV worth watching these days, but if I do choose to watch a programme, I want to be able to watch it without any interference caused by the mast.

The environment is constantly being eroded. We have recently had a number of trees demolished for the erection of Steggles Close. I am now informed that the Avenue

Garage has been sold and will be redeveloped into 42 houses, thus causing more trees and shrubs to be demolished no doubt. This has an obvious knock on effect for wildlife.

I am not particularly concerned about the reduction in the value of property but it remains an important point to be considered when discussing this application.

I cannot understand why the mast has to be in a solely residential area. Every week we hear that mobile phone manufacturers are making more staff redundancies because fewer people are buying mobile phones than was expected. So why do they need more masts? If they have to have them why can't they put them on the tops of their own offices on an industrial site miles from anywhere And why have I had to be informed by another resident of Western Avenue about this proposal? Surely Orange have an obligation to fully inform anyone who may be affected by the mast, of its intentions, and the dangers that arise?

I look forward to hearing that the application has been refused with no right to appeal.

Yours sincerely

S. Mellor

Shirley Mellor

Copies of this letter have been sent to:

Teresa May MP
Peter Skinner, Emma Nicholson and Roy Perry, MEPs
Terry Dredge, Councillor
Colin George, Woodley Chronicle
The Governing Body of St Dominic Savio RC School
Wokingham LEA
Fr Joe McNeaney, Priest of St John Bosco RC Church
Western Cottage, 64 Western Avenue

ref TL/2002/5298

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7/8 Frampton Close
Woodley
Reading, Berks
RG5 3BS

18th February 2002-02-18

Heidi Lynch
P O Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

Dear Heidi,

My husband and I moved to the Woodley area 2 ½ years ago as we felt it would be a safe place to raise our family. We have two children aged 2 and 4.

We are therefore very upset at the plans to erect a mobile phone mast very near to our home. We are planning to send our children to St Dominic's School which is just opposite the planned site for the mast. Obviously our children will be vunerable to the electromagnetic fields and radiation that these masts emit and this is causing us a lot of sleepness nights. Why does this mast have to be erected in a residential area – surely there must be many other more suitable places for it? We really do not want to have to move from this area but will have to consider it if the mast is erected because of the health worries.

I would much appreciate hearing from you at your earliest convenience as to why a residential area has been chosen for this mast.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Salib (Mrs)

Cc: Teresa May MP
Peter Skinner, Emma Nicholson, Roy Perry MEPs
Terry Dredge Councillor

Ref:- TL/2002/5798

PLANNING CASE SUPP
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04 MAR 2002
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FILE:

Mr & Mrs Barratt
5 Keane Close
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 4LG

18.02.2002

Dear Ms. Lynch,

We totally disagree with the proposal of erecting an Orange mobile phone mast in Western Avenue. Although we do not live on this road, we do live fairly close and we are concerned with the health risks, especially as there is a school within 300metres of the proposed site, and we also have two young children ourselves.

We are also concerned with the possibility of telephone and television interference as this will affect us and once the mast is erected it will be very difficult to have it removed without a lot problems.

We do not understand why the mast should be erected in this location, when there are probably a lot of other more suitable places (ie: along side the A4) away from properties and residential areas.

We feel very strongly that you should take into consideration all of the letters that you receive from local people and listen to their views, people have the right not to have such monstrosities like this on their doorstep.

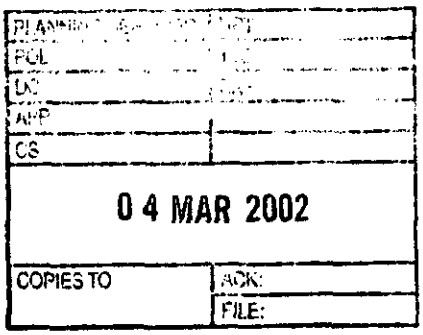
Yours sincerely,

Cathy Barratt

Peter & Cathy Barratt.

c.c. Teresa May MP,
Peter Skinner MEP
Emma Nicholson MEP
Roy Perry MEP
Terry Dredge, Councillor

71 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
RG5 3BL



Mrs T May MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A OAA

23 February 2002

Dear Teresa,

PROPOSED ORANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS MAST, WESTERN AVENUE

I understand you have already received letters of concern from local residents concerning the above proposal.

I have lived in my house at No.71 since 1951. I wish to add my concerns about the proposal to site a mast so close our properties. As a senior resident I am in my house most of the time during the week and do not want a mast sited only yards from my window.

It will not be possible for me to attend a meeting at Woodley Town Council on the 5th March, so I will not have that opportunity to express my view. I hope you will support our campaign against having this mast placed here against the wishes of local residents.

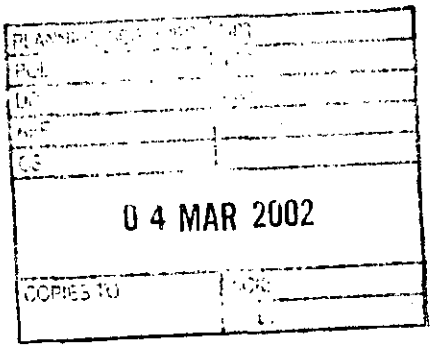
Yours sincerely,

Dorothy

D WALFORD (Mrs)

46 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berks
RG5 3BH

Tel: 0118 961 8624



10 February, 2002

Ms. Heidi Lynch
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

Ref: TL/2002/5798

Dear Ms Lynch

I object very strongly to plans by the communications company Orange to erect a mobile phone mast in Western Avenue, Woodley.

This is a residential area with an infant/junior school not far from the proposed location.

Aside from the aesthetic impact of such a device in this area, the known health impact, particularly on young people make this location entirely unsuitable.

I do not wish to stand in the way of progress, and, indeed, am a frequent user of mobile communications myself, but feel certain that there are plenty of locations in this area that would satisfy the needs of Orange Communications, and that are a suitable distance from residential concentrations or schools. I urge you most strongly to reject this proposal in favour of a more appropriate location.

Sincerely

Martin Aust
Western Avenue Resident

Copies to:
✓ Teresa May MP
Emma Nicholson MEP
Terry Dredge, Councillor
Peter Skinner MEP
Roy Perry MEP
Colin George, Woodley Chronicle

Andy & Beryl Murphy

♦♦♦

Wyndham ♦ Western Avenue ♦ Woodley, Reading ♦ Berkshire, RG5 3BH
Home Phone 0118-969-2241

PLANNING SERVICES
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Ref.TL/2002/5798

Dear, Teresa May

We would like to ask for your help in STOPPING the proposed installation of the 40ft Mobile Phone Mast in Western Avenue Woodley.

HEALTH RISKS.

Masts emit electromagnetic fields, non ionising radiation, microwaves & radon gas. These would have a debilitating effect on our wellbeing.

CHILDREN AT RISK.

Children below the age of 12 are most at risk. St. Dominics School is less than 300mtrs from the proposed site.

TV TRANSMISSION.

The mast may cause widespread disruption & interference with TV and other telecommunications devices and may have significant impact on electric equipment of any kind.

VISUAL AMENITY.

There is unlikely to be any screening of the mast as it is too small an area causing an acute eyesore in our beautiful tree lined avenue.

PROPERTY VALUE.

Would YOU buy a house where a huge monstrosity exists and one that may have adverse health affects?

Please help us to keep our avenue beautiful, safe and MAST FREE.
Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Andy & Beryl Murphy.

Rodney and Marian Ogbeide
8 Eynsham Close,
Woodley,
Reading RG5 4LF
Berkshire
18th February, 2002

PLANNING SERVICES UNIT
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FILE:

Heidi Lynch,
P.O. Box 157,
Shute End,
Wokingham RG40 1WR.

Ref. TL/2002/5798

Re. : 40ft Mobile Phone Mast Proposed for Western Avenue, Woodley

We have heard with dismay that there are plans for a 40ft Mobile Telephone Mast to be erected in the Western Road area of Woodley.

We have been resident in Woodley for the past 12 years and have been very happy living within a community that strives to remain safe and environmentally conscious. This proposal for a telephone mast in our community will be in direct conflict with these ideals and we feel is totally inappropriate and unnecessary.

The mobile phone market is already saturated with infrastructure and there can be no good reason to make such an installation right in the middle of a thriving residential area. If it is absolutely necessary for this to go ahead, then why not far away from villages, towns and suburbs where there can be no adverse effects on people and their property.

Woodley is primarily a family oriented residential area, and any such installation should be in the best interests of the residents and not those who wish to profit financially from this project. We are aware that there is concern that such an installation could pose significant health risks to residents. Any health risk to our community, and in particular to our children, no matter how remote, must be taken seriously and under no circumstances should they be trivialised and condoned just to satisfy the profiteering needs of the proposers of this telephone mast project.

In addition, we have invested our life savings in purchasing property in Woodley. If this project goes ahead, we risk seeing a substantial drop in the value of our property, which again I think is totally unacceptable. There is already a dangerous proliferation of mobile phone usage in the UK so there really is no need to add to the problem or create new problems at the expense of ordinary people trying to live ordinary albeit safe and environmentally focused lives.

We trust that our views will be taken into consideration by the decision makers and we request that plans for this project be dropped immediately.

Yours sincerely,

Rodney Ogbeide

cc Teresa May MP

40ft Mobile Phone Mast Proposed for Western Avenue

Time is running out...you only have until 20th Feb. to state your views on the proposal by Orange to install a mobile phone mast in our area. We need YOUR support.
Only strong public opposition can prevent this happening otherwise Orange will go ahead.

What does it look like? These masts are ugly ranging from poles to pylons with large base stations, hanging cables and microwave dishes. Once installed they are often added to by other companies ie; more masts, dishes etc - "mast sharing," they get uglier and bigger !

How it may effect your quality of life?

- **Health Risks;** Over a wide area masts emit electromagnetic fields, non ionising radiation, microwaves & radon gas, this potentially harmful cocktail of emissions is not something to be slow cooked by whilst we sleep at night. Documented evidence suggests these emissions affect brain function causing headaches, sleep disruption, impairment of short term memory and an increasing predisposition to certain cancers. Some of these may not be life threatening but they will have a debilitating effect on our well being.

- **Children at Risk** Children are particularly vulnerable, especially those below 12 yrs. of age, as their nervous system is still developing making them more susceptible to genetic damage which in turn could undermine neurological and academic development. There have also been reports of an increase in seizures amongst epileptic children. St. Dominics School is less than 300 mtrs from the proposed site.

- **Noise:** In high winds the wires bang & clank together - a persistent irritation for us all.

- **General Disruption;** Engineers may turn up day or night using powerful overhead lighting to carry out maintenance work. You may be forced to walk in the road whilst maintenance works are carried out as the proposed site is very narrow. Driving may become hazardous as you negotiate parked cars, school traffic and telecommunications vehicles.

- **TV transmission**; The mast may cause widespread disruption & physical interference with TV and other telecommunications devices and may have significant impact on electrical equipment of any kind.

- **The Environment:** Emissions may destroy or at minimum adversely affect local wildlife.

- **Visual Amenity;** There is unlikely to be any landscaping of the mast as it will be in the small island of shrubs & bushes opposite Radcot Close, the area is not wide enough to allow for screening causing an acute eyesore. *A notice has been erected on the proposed site with contact numbers & a web site address - take a look for more info.*

- **Property Value;** Would you buy a house where a huge, ugly monstrosity exists and one that may have adverse health affects? Western Avenue & associated roads are currently the most sought after residential area in Woodley, where property prices can be more than 10% above the rest of Woodley. A mast will depreciate the value of your home.

Act now and keep our area beautiful, safe and mast free.

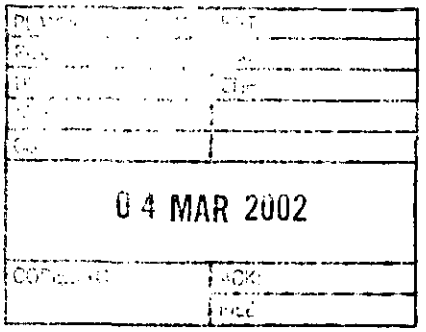
~ YOU MUST WRITE TO; Heidi Lynch, P.O Box 157 Shute End Wokingham, RG40 1WR. Quoting ref TL/2002/5798 to arrive before 20th Feb. stating your views & concerns.

~ ***ATTEND*** *the next Town Council meeting 5/3/02 @ 8pm Woodford Park Leisure Centre*

~ *Increase awareness and support, copy your letters or approach the following;*

- **Teresa May MP**, House Of Commons. London SW1A 0AA
- **Peter Skinner, Emma Nicholson, Roy Perry MEPs.** UK Office of European Members of Parliment, 2 Queen Annes Gate, London, SW1H 9AA
- **Terry Dredge Councillor,** 67 Welford Close, Woodley, RG5 4QS

Mr R Niedzwiedzki
24 Radcot Close
Woodley
READING
RG5 3BG



Mrs T May MP
House of Commons
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

15 February 2002

Dear Mrs May

Re: Orange PCSL Planning Application Number TL/2002/5798

You may be aware that Orange PCSL have applied to Wokingham District Council for permission to erect an 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column including one omni directional antenna, at the junction of Western Avenue and Radcot Close, Woodley, Reading, Berks.

By means of this letter I would like to secure your support to refuse this application on the grounds that the present proposed location would result in St. Dominics School, a junior school situated within 400m of the proposed antenna, being exposed to potentially harmful radio and electro-magnetic waves. Until such time that conclusive irrefutable evidence is available that these type of rays pose absolutely no threat to human health, mobile telecommunications antenna such as the proposed one should not be sited in close proximity to schools, especially junior schools.

If we must accept total mobile telephone coverage, then at the very least we should demand that any risk to our children, however small, be completely eliminated. Whilst other concerns with the proposed installation exist, such as health risks to all localised residents, negative impact on property values, environmental and visual pollution and disruption to TV and other electronic equipment, I believe that the possible risk to our children's health should in itself be sufficient to reject this proposal.

I trust you agree that it is necessary to look for an alternative antenna location and I look forward to your support in rejecting the present application.

Finally, please find enclosed my letter to Heidi Lynch, Development Control Officer, Wokingham District Council.

Yours sincerely

R Niedzwiedzki

Mr R Niedzwiedzki
24 Radcot Close
Woodley
READING
RG5 3BG

Ms H Lynch
Development Control Officer
Wokingham District Council
Environmental Services Department
Planning Services
P.O. Box 157
Shute End
WOKINGHAM
Berkshire
RG40 1WR

15 February 2002

Dear Ms Lynch

Re: Application Number TL/2002/5798

Further to your letter regarding the planning application by Orange PCSL to erect an 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with omni directional antenna at the junction of Western Avenue and Radcot Close, Woodley, I would like to submit the following comments.

My understanding is that Orange PCSL are pursuing this application in order to increase profits resulting from increased mobile phone customers due to provision of additional transmission capabilities provided by the proposed antenna. In order to achieve this objective Orange PCSL are proposing to use land and facilities within our community, creating considerable resident anxiety regarding possible short and long terms effects concerning health, environmental pollution, declining property values and potential disruption and interference of television, related telecommunications and electronic equipment. In return residents using Orange mobile telephones will be able to benefit from improved signal strength and availability.

The assumption that Orange PCSL have made is that residents within a 500m radius of the proposed antenna site require improved mobile telecommunications facilities. How did Orange PCSL arrive at this conclusion? Were the residents affected by this proposal consulted by Orange PCSL and if so are the results available for public scrutiny? Furthermore if the assumption made by Orange PCSL, that improved mobile telecommunications facilities are required by the residents, were to be shown to be incorrect, would Orange accept this and abandon their antenna proposal?

The proposed antenna is simply a means for Orange PCSL to maximise their profits at whatever cost, and whilst the proposal hides behind an assumed apparent local community requirement, in truth Orange are solely interested in keeping ahead of their competitors by ensuring their own market prominence irrespective of local requirements and wishes.

For my part I object to the Orange PCSL antenna proposal for the following reasons.

- **Potential health hazard**
- **Environmental and visual pollution**
- **Negative impact on property values**
- **Disruption of TV and other electronic equipment**

However, the Orange PCSL antenna proposed site should be rejected for the following reason. St. Dominics is a junior school situated within the maximum beam strength of the proposed antenna. Currently all available scientific data suggests that no ill effects should result from an antenna installation such as this. Nevertheless there are no guarantees and no one knows if these installations are 100% safe. Tragedies such as the Thalidomide cases are reminders of mans fallibility. Can we continue to take unnecessary risks? If the antenna must be erected then at the very least it must be erected well away from St. Dominics School and if no suitable site is available then in this instance planning permission must be refused.

Yours sincerely

R Niedzwiedzki

C.f.i. Teresa May MP
Terry Dredge Councilor

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24. Western Avenue
Woodley - Reading
Berks. RG5 3BH
Feb 16th 2002.

Re. Application TL/2002/5798
Erection of Telecommunications Mast
at Junction of Radcott Close and
Western Avenue.

Dear Mrs. May,

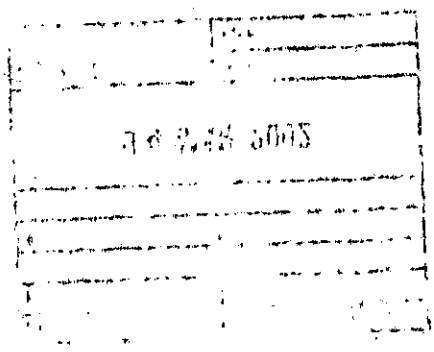
I am writing to object to the siting of the telecommunications mast in Western Avenue.

I think it is a very unsuitable place to put a mast in a residential area and so very close to homes and also a school.

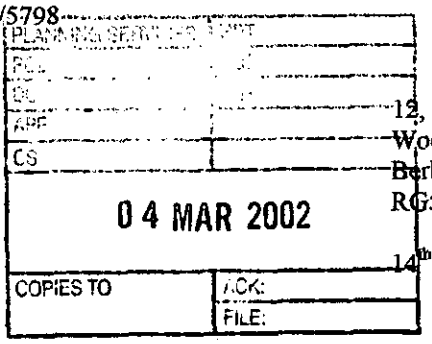
There is a great worry as to the safety of these masts and until it can be proved fully safe these masts should be placed well away from residential areas.

Yours sincerely

(KANAAR)



Ref:- Heidi Lynch TL/2002/5798



Wokingham Unitary
Planning Services
Wokingham
Berkshire.
RG40 1WR

12, Ryecroft Close,
Woodley,
Berkshire,
RG5 3BP

14th February, 2002

Dear Sirs,

I am in receipt of your letter dated 1st February 2002 with regard to the proposed erection of an 11.8m free standing telecommunications column to be sited in Western Avenue – reference as above.

I wish to put forward my very strong objections to this proposal and like everyone else in the immediate vicinity am totally against a 40ft Telephone Mast being erected in what has to be a most unsuitable position.

There are many reasons for my objections, first and foremost has to be from the point of view of it being a health risk. It has yet to be proved that there is absolutely no risk to health and so it would seem totally wrong to have this Mast situated in a completely residential area and with St. Dominic's School less than 300mtrs from the proposed site.

I would briefly list my other reasons as follows:-

Health Risk: To every man, woman and child within its radius.

Children at risk: Because of the school more children will be at risk than just those resident in the area.

Noise: A continual and persistent irritation

General disruption: Which I understand can be caused night or day when maintenance work is required

TV Transmission: Possible disruption to the receiving of TV signals.

The Environment: Emissions may adversely affect our wildlife, in particular the Badgers that live here.

Visual Amenity: An eyesore in what has to be the most sought after residential area in Woodley

Property Value: Of great concern – such a huge, ugly monstrosity that may be a health risk is not going to encourage anyone to purchase in this area and we will see a decrease in property values.

Under no circumstances do I feel that Orange PCSL should be given planning permission for their telecommunications development to be sited in Western Avenue, North Woodley.

Yours faithfully,

H.A.Murray.

c.c.
Teresa May MP.
Peter Skinner/ Emma Nicholson/ Roy Perry – MEPs
Terry Dredge – Councillor
Colin George – Woodley Chronical
Meridian TV

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9 Warren Road
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3AP

18th February 2002

Teresa May MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

FAO: Teresa May MP

Dear Ms May,

Re: Application For Development of Proposed Phone Mast

Permitted Development Ref No: TL/2002/5798

By Orange Communications Ltd.

Location of Proposed Mast Erection – Land at Radcot Close, Woodley, Berkshire.

I am writing to object to the proposed application for the 40ft mobile phone mast planned for Radcot Close in Woodley. Below I have listed some of my objections and concerns and hope you will consider the view of myself and other local resident who live and have lived in this area for many years.

1. This technology **has not yet been proved as safe.** I (and the majority of my neighbours) have deep-seated concerns and worries regarding mobile masts and their perceived detrimental effect on health grounds. Current research on this matter has merely concentrated on the effects of **tissue heating only** from microwave emitting antenna. There is, however, a large body of scientific research that now challenges this view with regard to other possible symptoms such as increased cancer risk, sterility, effects on heart etc. There have also been reports of an increase in seizures amongst epileptic children and this is a particular concern with St. Dominic's School in such close proximity to the mast.
2. That the "precautionary principle" recommended in the Government commissioned **Stewart Report for the IEGMP (May 2000),** which calls for a cessation in the erection of masts close to people until more was known about the possible health effects of masts, appears to have been ignored.
3. That with the expected future concerns on mobile 'phone mast safety being similar to those recently raised regarding overhead power lines and television broadcast antennae, **private property values will plummet** in areas where masts have been erected in or near to residential properties. It is interesting to note that US and other European countries stipulate a minimum exclusion zone of 500m from mast sites to the vulnerable. The Stewart Report also recommends such exclusion zones **Paras 1.44-1.48 Stewart Report.**
4. That the development will cause widespread physical interference and disruption to existing television and other telecommunication services due to the physical obstruction or reflection of the wanted signals. Local Authorities need to have taken into account that the potential for interference has been fully considered in the sitting and design of this development, as it would be impossible to correct this situation after the site becomes operational.

5. Emissions may destroy or at a minimum adversely effect local wildlife.

The effect on visual amenities, reports of TV, telecommunication and electrical equipment being disrupted, the health risks (especially near a junior school), effect on local wildlife and the effect on property value, I believe the site is inappropriate.

I look forward to your official response to the points raised above, please do not allow a lack of response on the Council's behalf to be responsible for this irresponsible development proceeding by default. I urge you to reject this application.

Yours faithfully

M D. Gregorio

Mr.Michele Di Gregorio

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POL	TLS
DC	ENF
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0 4 MAR 2002	
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48 Radcot Close
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BG
15th February 2002

Dear Teresa May,

We are writing to you as our local MP, in the hope that you will intervene on our behalf with regards to the proposed erection of a mobile phone mast at the junction of Western Avenue and Radcot Close – a proposal for which we have strong objections. The reasons for our objection are detailed in the attached letter, which we have sent to Wokingham District Council.

We understand that the erection of such masts does not need planning permission. Since our house is within the beam of maximum intensity for the planned mast, we have many fears. Fears that the appearance of the locality will be detrimentally affected, fears that wildlife in the locality will be affected, fears that our television reception and cordless phone will be affected, and lastly, fears that there may be long term affects on the health of our 3 young children.

Whilst there remain to be gaps in the evidence regarding the long term affects of telecommunication masts, we appeal to you to err on the side of caution and prevent such masts from being erected within residential areas. If it is essential that a mast is sited within the area, are there not areas within local parks, farmland or by motorways where there are no houses in a 200m radius. I believe that some European countries have recently ruled that masts should be a minimum of 500m from residential homes – is it any wonder we feel strongly about a mast being erected 100m from our house?

Please look into this matter with the utmost urgency, as we believe there is a very short window in which to appeal against this proposed development.

Yours sincerely

Mr & Mrs A L Masters

48 Radcot Close
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BG
15th February 2002

Planning and Development Department
Wokingham District Council

FAO Heidi Lynch, Planning Case Officer

Dear Ms Lynch,

Re: Application Number: TL/2002/5798 – Proposed erection of a 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna.

We are writing to object to the above proposal. Please find detailed below our observations and objections.

1. There has been no site notice as required in PPG8.
2. The letter we received from Wokingham District Council informed us we had 21 days to comment – why are we being denied the full 56 day period? (Ref Stewart Report for the IEGMP May 2000)
3. No pre-application discussions were held with local residents, as set out in PPG8 Para 9.
4. When we moved here 18 months ago we were given the impression that the North Woodley area is a quality urban area – many councils have policies to protect such urban areas from detrimental developments. Does Wokingham District Council have such a policy?
5. The Government has attached considerable importance to mast sharing or sharing an existing site in the area, as an alternative to developing new mast sites (PPG8, Para.19 to 23). Has mast sharing been considered in this instance? Additionally, should the erection of this mast go ahead, have we any protection against this mast being shared?
6. We object on the grounds that the proposal represents a loss of amenity to the people of Woodley, and in particular the residents of Radcot Close anad Western Avenue. The local plan for Wokingham District Council should include policies on the siting and external appearance, including any location and landscaping requirements, designed to minimise the impact of such apparatus on an amenity as stated in PPG 8, Para. 40 of the Appendix. Having studied the plans at the library, there appears to be no allowance for land to landscape the mast as viewed from the Radcot Close junction.The proximity of the mast to residential property will be invasive and intrusive, and thereby affect the amenity of the area. As we are sure you are aware, PPG 8 makes it clear that a rejection of permitted development permission is acceptable should the LPA conclude that it would have an adverse effect on the amenity of the area, and Annex 1 para.13 lists a number of factors involving siting, one of which is " the site in relation to residential property."
7. We object on the grounds that this technology has yet to be proved safe. We have strong concerns regarding the long term health effects of telecommunication

masts, and given that our house is located within the beam of maximum intensity and that we have three children, all aged under 8, we are naturally fearful.

8. We understand that the "precautionary principle" recommended by the government commissioned Stewart Report for the IEGMP (May 2000), calls for a cessation in the erection of masts close to people until more is known about the possible health effects of masts. This recommendation seems to have been ignored in this instance – you couldn't get any closer to residential homes, and there is primary school nearby. Many European countries have called for a minimum distance of 500m between telecommunication masts and residential homes and schools. As our house lies approximately 100m from the planned site for the mast in question, surely you can understand our concerns.
9. Have alternative sites, away from residential areas been considered? Are there not opportunities beside major roads, within country parks eg Dinton Pastures, or other parkland, eg Ashenbury Park, Woodford Park.
   We were very interested to read an article in The Chronicle, dated 14th February on Page 11, where Viv Samuel, the leader of the Woodley Town Council says; "The Council are going to invite someone from Orange and someone from Wokingham District Council to come along to the next planning meeting to see if there's any place we can put this. **It would have to be up to the public to decide,** but putting a mast on the council land is something we will have to look at."
   "It is difficult when Woodford Park belongs to everybody. Thousands of children use the park and we would have to check on the health risks before going ahead with putting it anywhere like that."
   If there is a possible risk to children playing in the park, then what about our children sleeping in there beds for 12 hours every night, not to mention the time they spend at home playing?
10. We object to the proposal as we are concerned it may affect the quality of our life, and the life of our neighbours. Will there be detrimental effects to our television reception, use of cordless telephones, computers ? Will the behaviour and patterns of local wildlife, eg birds, which seem particularly prevalent in the area, be affected? Will house prices be affected?

Yours sincerely

Mr & Mrs A L Masters

13th February 2002

Mr Peter Bartholomew
121 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3BL

Phone 0118 969 1450

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POL	TLS
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04 MAR 2002

COPIES TO	ACK:
	FILE

Mrs Teresa May MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

My Reference: Phonemast/1/tm

Dear Mrs May,

RE: Planning application ref :- TL/2002/5798 for a Telecommunications mast in Western Avenue Woodley.

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter that I have sent to the Wokingham District Council.

I would urge you to visit Western Avenue to see the proposed site, it really has to be seen to be believed.

Yours Sincerely,

Peter Bartholomew

13th February 2002

Mr Peter Bartholomew
121 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3BL

Phone 0118 969 1450

Mrs H Lynch
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

My Reference: Phonemast/1/wdc

Planning application ref :- TL/2002/5798

Dear Heidi,

RE: Planning application ref :- TL/2002/5798 for a Telecommunications mast in Western Avenue Woodley.

I write in objection to this proposal.

The siting and design of the proposed mast will detract from, and adversely affect the amenity of the locality. I urge the local authority to invoke your powers under Article 4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995. I am sure the committee will agree that it would be expedient in order to protect the amenity of the locality, and for the good planning of the area, that an Article 4 order should be made.

Further, I am surprised that I have had, no formal notification from the district council of this application, bearing in mind the proximity of my property to such an enormous structure.

Also, at the proposed site there is no evidence of a formal application notice.

I find it hard to believe that consideration is being given to this application bearing in mind the very close proximity of so many residential properties.

The location that has been proposed really has to be seen to be believed !

Yours Sincerely,

Peter Bartholomew

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CS	

04 MAR 2002

COPIES TO	ACK: 12/12/2002
	FILE:

30 Radcot close
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3SG
Tel No 969 8211

Dear Mrs May

Re the application for Telecommunication mast to be erected by Orange at the junction of Radcot close + Western Avenue

I understand we can not put forward a concern for health reasons on this ground, even though most of Europe seem to have a deep Health concern, so should we? Having Spoken with a few people in Western Avenue about the Sighting of this mast, of which they claim to be in dispute with Wokingham Council as to ownership of land in question, we feel it is too near the School, and would be a problem with maintenance as we already have many problems with Parking, as I'm sure you will be aware of.

But as we are assured this mast is neither a health Hazard, nor eye Sore, nor devalues your property, feel if they need a new Sight, look no

further, the new woodley Town council offices to be Built in Woodford Park, would be an ideal Way of Showing they are "putting their money where their mouth is, but on the other hand pigs might fly

yours Sincerely

Mrs Jean Curtis

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CS	
04 MAR 2002	
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97. Western Rd.
Woodley
Reading.
RG5 3BL
11/2/02

Dear Mr May,

Proposed Mobile Phone Mast
in Western Rd.

Please forgive me bothering you with this. I enclose a report prepared by a neighbour which puts the position fairly well. I have already written to the Council (a M/r. H. Lynch. P.O. Box 157 Wokingham Dc. Wokingham RG40 1WR) suggesting that the wretched thing can be put in the local park. I'm sure we should all be very grateful if you could inject a little authoritative sense into the

Over

Council Manager Department.

We have met at one of the meetings in Colin Pierce's house, my next door neighbour, but I can hardly expect you to have remembered the occasion.

Yours Sincerely,

Harry Fogarty

(F. H. FOGARTY.)

40ft Mobile Phone Mast Proposed for Western Avenue

Time is running out...you only have until 20th Feb. to state your views on the proposal by Orange to install a mobile phone mast in our street. We need YOUR Support.
Only strong public opposition can prevent this happening otherwise Orange will go ahead.

What does it look like? These masts are ugly ranging from poles to pylons with large base stations, hanging cables and microwave dishes. Once installed they are often added to by other communications companies ie; more masts or additional dishes - called "mast sharing," in effect they get uglier and bigger !! See www.mastaction.org and related sites for pictures.

How it may effect your quality of life?

- **Health Risks;** Masts emit electromagnetic fields, non ionising radiation, microwave & radon gas, this potentially harmful cocktail of emissions is not something to be slow cooked by whilst we sleep at night. Documented evidence suggests these emissions affect brain function causing headaches, sleep disruption, impairment of short term memory and an increasing predisposition to certain cancers. Some of these may not be life threatening but they will have a debilitating effect on our well being.

- **Children at Risk** Children are particularly vulnerable, especially those below 12 yrs. of age, as their nervous system is still developing making them more susceptible to genetic damage which in turn could undermine neurological and academic development. There have also been reports of an increase in seizures amongst epileptic children. St. Dominics School is less than 300 mtrs from the proposed site.

- **Noise:** In high winds & poor weather the wires bang & clank generating a continual and persistent irritation.

- **General Disruption;** Engineers may turn up day or night using powerful overhead lighting to carry out maintenance work. You may be forced to walk in the road whilst maintenance works are carried out as the proposed site is very narrow. Driving may become hazardous as you negotiate parked cars, school traffic and telecommunications vehicles.

- **TV transmission**; The mast may cause widespread disruption & physical interference with TV and other telecommunications devices and may have significant impact on electrical equipment of any kind.

- **The Environment:** Emissions may destroy or at minimum adversely affect local wildlife.

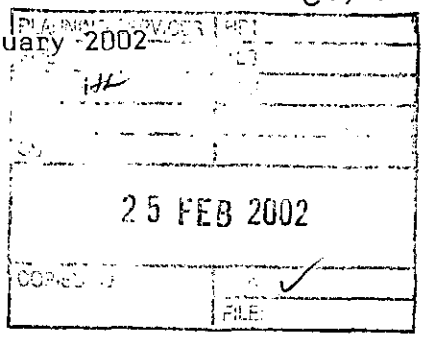
- **Visual Amenity;** There is unlikely to be any screening or landscaping of the mast as it will be in the small island of shrubs & bushes opposite Radcot Close, the area is not wide enough to allow for screening causing an acute eyesore in our beautiful tree lined avenue.

- **Property Value;** Would you buy a house where a huge, ugly monstrosity exists and one that may have adverse health affects? Western Avenue & associated roads are currently the most sought after residential area in Woodley, where property prices can be more than 10% above the rest of Woodley. A mast will depreciate the value of your home.

Robert and Karen Buckley
"Trescowe"
Western Avenue
Woodley RG5 3BH

8m 5

21 February 2002



Wokingham Unitary Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

Attention: Ms H Lynch

Dear Ms Lynch

Application No TL/2002/5798 - Erection of telecomm column Western Ave

Thank you for informing us of the above application. We have examined the plan and visited the site and the following are our comments.

We believe the site is totally inappropriate and therefore object to the application. We appreciate the need for good communications and realise aerials must be provided, but this site is only 20 metres from the nearest house and others are in the region of 25 metres. It is on the side of a busy road frequented by many children who attend St. Dominic's, which is about 200 metres away. Moreover the road in this area is used extensively as a parking place for dropping off and collecting children from the school.

The height of the column is likely to be intrusive but more importantly the lower beam edge spreads to 64.45 metres. We realise that there is no positive evidence that the transmissions are harmful, but the jury is out on the issue and where young children are concerned we should not take the risk. As we understand it the Council had a local rule of thunb for safety that aerials should not be within 60 metres of public places, this is well inside that, hence our objection.

We know little about telecommunications but would have thought the ideal spot would be on high wooded ground amongst trees on Railway property. It would be further from houses, hidden and surely more effective.

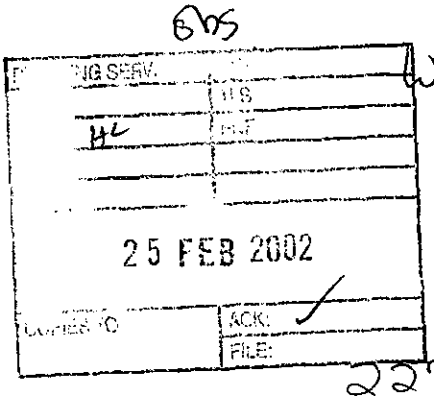
Also we pay a premium on house prices to live in Western Avenue, and we feel this aerial would have a detrimental effect on the value of nearby property.

Yours sincerely

Robert and Karen Buckley

7 Steggles Close,
Woodley,
Reading,
RG5 3AH.

22nd February, 2002



Dear Ms. Lynch

Planning application No: TL/2002/5798

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed telecommunications mast on Western Ave, Woodley.

I know that it is not so easy for councils to object now to these installations on health grounds, but I still wish to highlight this concern, as gudelines are all relative and no proof is available to prove they are definitely safe. It is worrying that a primary school is situated so close to the proposed site. I still wish to object on health grounds.

I also wish to object on grounds of appearance and non-suitability. To erect an ugly mast about 40 feet from people's houses (which no doubt will devalue the value of those houses) is not suitable. These masts should not be put up in residential areas, which will start to resemble a scene from a science-fiction film and the

electro-magnetic radiation will be multiplied accordingly.

People should not be subjected to the potential health problems and the visual blight and annoyance they cause. I am therefore writing to you to request that Wokingham District Council respects the wishes of ordinary people and rejects such proposals.

Yours sincerely,

Janet Allan (Mrs.)

858
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DC | ENF
APP |
CS |
22 FEB 2002
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FILE

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach." [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely:

Name: Mrs A.M. Carr

Address: 42 Wester Avenue,
Woodley.

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

852

HL

26 FEB 2002

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Cancel□da

From: WebComments@wokingham.gov.uk
Sent: 22 February 2002 08:02
To: ian.jordan@wokingham.gov.uk
Subject: Comments on Planning Applications

****

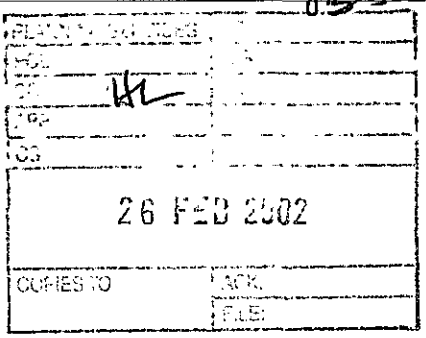
NatureofEmail: Object
ApplicationNumber: tL/2002/5798
Correspondent_FullName: M.M. & B.L. Brennan
Correspondent_StreetAddress: 462 Reading Road
Correspondent_Address2: Winnersh
Correspondent_Town: Wokingham
Correspondent_County: Berks
Correspondent_PostCode: RG41 5ET
Correspondent_Telephone:
Correspondent_Email:

Comments:

We object to the erection of the mast due to its close proximity to St Dominic Savio School and its potential health hazard

Cancel□da

BS



From: WebComments@wokingham.gov.uk
Sent: 21 February 2002 20:41
To: ian.jordan@wokingham.gov.uk
Subject: Comments on Planning Applications

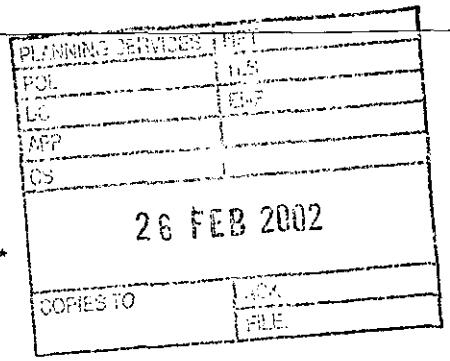
****

NatureofEmail: Object
ApplicationNumber: TL/2002/5798
Correspondent_FullName: Mr & Mrs Cox
Correspondent_StreetAddress: 12 Worrall Way
Correspondent_Address2: Lower Earley
Correspondent_Town: Reading
Correspondent_County: Berkshire
Correspondent_PostCode: RG6 4AW
Correspondent_Telephone: 0118 9750681
Correspondent_Email: Michael.cox10@ntlworld.com

Comments:

We strongly object to the proposed erection of the telecoms tower in Western Ave, Woodley as my daughter attends St Dominic Savio school and we fear that her health and that of the other children may be adversely affected by this tower. In many cases where towers have been erected there have been clusters of cancer and other serious illnesses and we feel it is irresponsible of Orange (and of the council should the planning be passed) to even contemplate erecting the tower so close to a school. You may want to look at www.mastaction.org on the internet for further information regarding the health issues surrounding these towers. If the plans were to be passed we would have to seriously consider removing our daughter from the school which would cause us loss of amenity.

Cancel□da



From: WebComments@wokingham.gov.uk
Sent: 22 February 2002 08:02
To: ian.jordan@wokingham.gov.uk
Subject: Comments on Planning Applications

****

NatureofEmail: Object
ApplicationNumber: tL/2002/5798
Correspondent_FullName: M.M. & B.L. Brennan
Correspondent_StreetAddress: 462 Reading Road
Correspondent_Address2: Winnersh
Correspondent_Town: Wokingham
Correspondent_County: Berks
Correspondent_PostCode: RG41 5ET
Correspondent_Telephone:
Correspondent_Email:

Comments:

We object to the erection of the mast due to its close proximity to St Dominic Savio School and its potential health hazard

805

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27 FEB 2002
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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"*... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach.* " [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely:

Name: Brian R Court

Address: 18 Radcot Close
Woodley, Reading
RG5 3BG
06.02.2002

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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27 FEB 2002

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	FILE:

40 Ravensbourne Drive
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 4RJ

Heidi Lynch
Wokingham District Council
Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berkshire
RG40 1WR

21st February 02

Dear Ms. Lynch

Re : Planning Application : TL/2002/5798

I wish to strongly object to the proposed erection of a telecommunications mast at the junction of Radcot Close and Western Avenue Woodley for the following reasons.

- It's unacceptable proximity to residential housing and a children's play areas. St Dominics School is 250 metres from the proposed site and the surrounding area has numerous family homes containing small children.

- The mast will be some 11.8 tall including the antennas. It will be completely out of character with the residential area. It will be very detrimental to the visual amenity & quality of life of residents.

- There are other more acceptable sites which could be used nearer the railway cutting etc. These sites would be further from residential properties & the visual impact would be less, especially if it was attached to existing electricity pylons as recommended in the Planning Policy Guidance Note (PPG8).

- PPG8 guidelines encourage mast sharing so if it was passed the proposed mast would set a precedence, & open the floodgates to more and bigger masts with more antennas in the immediate vicinity.

- There will be a detrimental effect on house prices and ease of sale.

- I have very grave concerns about the health risk from long term exposure to radiation from such a mobile phone mast. The Stewart report states "that it is not possible to say exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects", and "children may be more vulnerable". In view of the close proximity of children's play areas & residential property where many children live, the siting of such a mast in this location would place all these children at greater risk from exposure to RF radiation and as a precautionary measure the application should be refused.

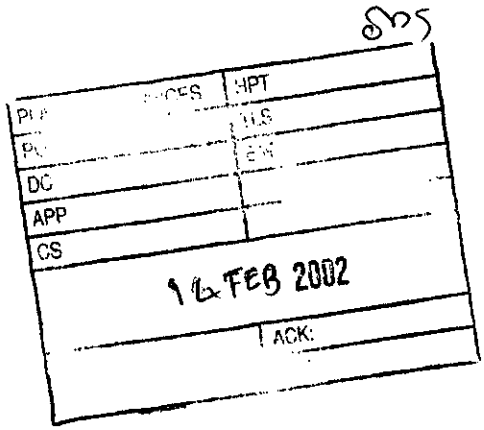
Please do not allow this mast, or any other mast to be sited at this location. There are plenty of non-residential and business sites that could be used that would not inconvenience any body. The council should explore these potential sites and a list made so that when such applications are made, an alternative can be suggested in a positive way, for both the mobile phone companies and the residents of Wokingham District Council.

Yours sincerely,

P. J. D. Mayes.

[DR PETER MAYES]

28 Radcot Close
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3BG
0118 969 8902



13 February 2002

Dear Ms Lynch,

Re: Erection of Telecommunications Mast at Junction of Radcot Close & Western Avenue, Woodley

We have written this letter to you to object in the strongest manner to the proposed plans by Orange to erect a telecommunications mast close to our property.

You will see from the address above, that our house is situated in Radcot Close and we are extremely concerned about the proposed plans.

There is considerable uncertainty within the scientific community about the long-term damage these masts can cause to general health – particularly in young people. The plans for the mast show that our house, along with all the others in Radcot Close (and a number of other properties) is within the strongest RF field of the mast.

In addition to this concern, we are also extremely unhappy with the unsightly aspect of this mast, which will be directly visible from a good part of the Close. Together, these impacts will create a further issue in that the value of my property is likely to be reduced. If for any reason the proposed plans do go ahead, I will expect the council to reduce the Council Tax bill that I have to pay.

We cannot understand why a mast of this size has to be sited so close to residential properties. Whilst we both admit to using a mobile telephone and accept their usefulness, ourselves, our family and friends have used the Cellnet and Vodaphone networks in and near our home with no issues. Given this, why cannot Orange be persuaded (or even forced) to share an existing mast?

We are very conscious that we do not want to appear to be NIMBYs (not in my back yard), but if mast sharing is not an option, why cannot the mast be sited where it will have much less visual and environmental impact. If the mast were to be sited a few hundred yards down Western Avenue towards Butts Hill Road, the direct impact on the number of houses and the number of people within the immediate RF footprint would be considerably reduced. Better still, the mast could be sited in the centre of Woodford Park where there would be no immediate impact on permanent residential dwellings in close proximity.

We do hope that you can find it within yourself to support us and the other concerned residents of Radcot Close in this matter. We have signed a copy of a general letter to the council that was distributed by John Wann and by sending this personal letter, we hope to add more weight to the protest by adding our individual protest to the general collective one.

We have been residents in our home in Radcot Close for almost 21 years and have always been very happy living in Woodley and with the way that the town has been managed. We are desperately hoping that Woodley Town Council, Wokingham District Council and our local political representatives can support local residents against a plan that will disrupt and potentially damage the lives of a considerable number of citizens.

Can you please support this protest by doing whatever is in your power to oppose the plans so that the mast is not erected.

Yours faithfully,

T G Denby M.A. Denby

Terry & Marion Denby

22 Radcot Close
Woodley
Berks
RG5 3BG

0118-969-8146

19 FEB 2002

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FILE:

Ms H Lynch
Development Control Officer
Wokingham District Council
Planning Services
P.O. Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks
RG40 1WR

17/02/02

Dear Ms Lynch

Application No. TL/2002/5798
Erection of telecommunications column at junction of Radcot Close & Western Avenue, Woodley

I am writing in response to your letter of 1/2/02 concerning the above development. I would request that consideration is given to my comments below when this application goes through the due process by your Planning Authority.

It has to be acknowledged that the application has been put forward on behalf of Orange PCSL who are an established company within the field of mobile radio telecommunications systems and fully understand their commitments to the community. The actual application has been submitted by Patrick Farfan a professional group operating in the planning field. However both organisations should accept that along with such pre-eminence they have responsibilities for associated levels of quality and detail in such applications. It is therefore reasonable, for both the Planning Authority and the public, to assume that any lack of detail, lack of clarity or confusion in statements made are included to ease the passage of the application rather than be a simple clerical error.

1) Drawing No 30/BRK7031/01 is included as part of the planning application. This drawing is the main layout arrangement defining the location and size of all relevant parts. As such it requires to be fully detailed inorder that a third party can unambiguously understand the planning application. Close inspection of this drawing will reveal that a **key dimension is missing.** The dimensions of location in the road direction are clearly labelled and relate to the existing BT pole. There is also a clearly dimensioned vertical view of all components. **NO** dimensions are given for the third axis, away from the road edge. This lack of dimension is key to the potential success of the planning application as recognised by both Orange PCSL and Patrick Farfan.

2) The application consists of two items, a mast and a cabinet. The cabinet is clearly specified as 0.98 cubic metres. The cabinet has two dimensions specified 1250 mm in length and 1250 mm in height. The lack of a third dimensions makes it difficult to verify the volume. However if one scales the plan it is fair to give a depth of 800 mm. this gives

a total volume for the cabinet of 1.25 cubic metres. **The request for approval for the cabinet is not supported by the information supplied, it will be 25% larger than requested.** As drawn the cabinet should only be 627 mm deep.

3) The lack of third dimension details will also have a **significant impact on the safety of pedestrians.** The details supplied show that the centre of the proposed mast is forward of the centre of the BT pole. The diameter of the mast is also larger than the existing BT pole which is 1300 mm from the pavement edge and currently defines the pavement width at this location. The proposed application will force a significant reduction in the pavement width at a crucial point for safety in front of a junction. This may well require people with twin children buggies being forced to use the road. **This is a standard health and safety concern and should be judged as such.** The applicants cannot be considered ignorant of such details as they have used highway visibility concerns as the reason for rejecting alternative site (c) in the application. However they are aware that if the mast is forced further back into the verge it will conflict with the roots of the trees they are claiming for camouflage and probably reduce effective signal.

4) The applicants have referred to Planning Policy Guidance 8 (PPG8) in support of their application. They have even quoted a paragraph to indicate how innovative they are. It is therefore reasonable to assume they have adopted the major requirements of this policy with regard to consultation. Paragraphs 8 to 13 of the main policy clearly indicate the amount of **pre-application** discussions a responsible organisation is encouraged to hold. Paragraphs 8 and 9 relate to the discussions with the Local Planning Authority (LPA). The details in the application indicate **the applicants are not listening to the LPA** but attempting to muscle this application through. Indeed their statement under Local Plan Policy reduces their interpretation of PPG8 to the need to send a few letters and not chase answers. A parallel should be drawn with the amount of activity Orange PCSL will have put in to purchase their UMTS license which is at the heart of this application.

5) Paragraph 11 of PPG8 stresses the importance of pre-submission discussions with any school affected by the proposal. The beam density calculations provided indicate the centre of the beam is 205.79 meters from mast location. This places St Dominic's RC school within the affected area. **No indication is given in the application of having satisfied this requirement of PPG8.** Local discussions indicate the school was informed after the application.

6) The justification put forward by the applicants is that the signal strength in the area is too low. This is substantiated by calculations based on the Oftel confidence levels. This also raises concerns over the interpretation of PPG8 by Orange PCSL. It is reasonable to assume such theoretical calculations were carried out when Orange commenced their commercial operations. It is certainly reasonable to assume these calculations were available when applications for base stations BRK0088 and BRK0013 were made. However revealing the extent of mast requirement in a locality does not help each individual application. Thus the applicants have wittingly chosen the route of individual mast planning applications as the optimum way for their commercial success. **This lack of forward thinking does not fit with paragraph 8 of PPG8.** I have made an attempt, based on data provide in the application, to give a projection of the future sites Orange

PCSL will be requiring to fully operate their Microcell arrangement in the Woodley area. Plan JMH 1 indicates 18 masts in the North Woodley area alone.

7) The application although being justified on signal strength is actually more concerned with call volume. This is clarified in points 3 and 4 of the choice of site. No actual data from users is provided to back-up the claims of call blockage. In fact local knowledge does not indicate a particular problem. **No evidence is supplied as to how an additional mast will allow increased call volume.** Alternative modern technology solutions to increasing call volume from existing stations have not been considered by the applicants.

8) PPG8 places strong emphasis on the need to consider mast sharing, paragraphs 66-73 of the PPG8 Appendix cover this point. This places an onus on the holders of UMTS licenses to ensure effective joint future planning takes place. In effect Orange PCSL are planning an infra-structure based on the assumption that they get a significant percentage of the future commercial activity. However all other suppliers are in the same situation and the local area can be oversubscribed with masts without effective planning pre-discussions. To this end PPG8 is very clear concerning new housing developments under paragraph 32. There is no indication in the application that consideration has been given to the proposed development between Western Avenue, Warren Road and the Railway line. **An alternative location for this application is Grid Ref E475850 N174250.** This would have the advantage of increased height due to ground slope to give better signal cover as well as being capable of harmonisation within the new development area.

9) The prospect that the applicants will use success in this application as justification for future development locally is born out by their statement 8 concerning reasons for choice. The claim of matching to existing street furniture would not be correct if the previous development by the cable telecommunications operator had not been successful. Thus one can foresee a statement from Orange PCSL that calls have increased dramatically and a further mast or extra antenna should be erected. Such an addition will not be considered out of character following success of this application.

10) Although PPG8 states a Governmental position on Health and Safety, it does not absolve the LPA from subsequent claims for damage should they be proven to have ignored latest advice. To this end I draw the attention of Wokingham District Council to the current investigations being carried out within the Redbridge Council area to explore whether local cancer cluster sets are related to mobile masts. For ease of reference I attach a copy from the web dated 8/2/02.

In Summary

I suggest that this is an ill-considered location for the proposed mast and cabinet and inadequately supported for the following reasons:-

1) Lack of dimension details
2) Cabinet is bigger than application states.
3) Danger due to footpath restriction
4) Lack of pre-application talks with LPA
5) Lack of pre-submission talks with affected school

6) Lack of full justification
7) Lack of consideration for future planning
8) Will be considered a precedence for this area

I am suggesting that if a mast is required it is moved to an area close to Grid Ref E475850 N174250.

Yours sincerely

J M Haslop


A = Application 74/2002/5798
B = Proposed Future Mast
PLAN
Sonning Eye
Sonning
Thames
Sonning Bridge
Sonning Golf Course
Sonning C. of E. Prim. Sch.
Reading Blue Coat School
Holme Park
Bishop's Palace (site of)
Bishop's Cl.
Pearson Rd
Sonning Farm
University Farm House
Model Farm Cotts.
Dean Corner
Sandpit Copse
Sports Ground
Pavilion
King George's Field
Tennis Cts.
Sports Gnd.
Min Rifle Range
Inglewood Farm
Sonning Hill
Home Park Farm
Big Gogs
Little Gogs
Holmemoor Copse
Club House
Duffields Bridge
Butshill Bridge
Waingel's Copse Sec. Sch.
Kennels
Strawberry Farm
Acre Bird Sanctuary
Norris's Copse
Ashenbury Park Recreation Ground
Playground
Lands End House
Giddey Bridge
Copper Bridge
Gravel Pit
Southcot Ditc.
Alder Moors
Woodley Green
Woodley Airfield
Willow Bank Sch.
Woodford Park Tennis Pav.
St. Dominic's R.C. Schools
Depot
Playground
Memorial Rec. Gnd.
Bulmershe Park
Tennis Cts.
The Bulmershe Sec. Sch.
Playing Field
Bulmershe Sports & Comm. Cen.
Beechwood Prim. Sch.
Headley Park Industrial Estate
Factory
Bakery
Works
Woodley
Sandford Hotel
Sandford Farm
Sluices
Sandford Manor
The Pump House
Sandford Mill
Lavell's Lake
Black Bridge
Sandford Lake
Sandfordmill Copse
William Gray Inf. & Jun. Schools
Playing Field
Rivermead Prim. Sch.
High Wood
Southland Wood
South Lake
South Lake Inf. & Jun. Schs.
The Moor
Tufty's Corner
Mungell's Pond
Earley
Earley Depot
Loddon Bridge
Winnersh Triangle
Offices
Sorting Office
Winnersh Triangle Industrial Estate
Playing Field
Winnersh
Moor Copse
Oldpond Copse
The Loddon Jun. & Infs Sch.
Rec. Grnd.
Maiden Erlegh Sec. Sch.
Tennis Cts.
A329(M)
A329
A4
A3032
B478
B4446
M4 Motorway
Old Bath Road
Sonning Lane
Lower Earley Way
Reading Road
Loddon
River

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Investigation on cancer cluster set

A date has finally been set for an investigation into the Carnarvon Road cancer cluster.

Experts from the National Radiological Protection Board will measure the level of radiation emitted from 16 mobile phone masts at eight locations in the South Woodford street on February 28.

The survey comes after it was revealed in November that five of seven houses closest to the masts are home to cancer victims.

Constance Nash, 80, a resident of 30 years, who was diagnosed with breast cancer last April, hopes that the survey will set a precedent.

She said: "I believe all mobile masts should be tested every year. That is the only thing to do.

"I think it is very significant that people who lived here before the masts never had cancer. But it is difficult to prove these things.

"We have to keep pressing to make people aware of the radiation. I am sure that we would not have got the survey if it were not for the pressure."

Another resident, who did not want to be named, thinks it is a case of too little, too late for people like her husband, who is recovering after he developed bowel cancer five years ago.

She said: "It is great that, at last, something is being done but my husband's circumstances have not changed. He hasn't got to go back to the hospital for a year. But he will not get the all clear for five years, so I'm keeping my fingers crossed."

Councillors from area committee two made the decision last month to use their discretionary budget to pay for the £3,250 survey, after they waited two weeks for Redbridge Council's cabinet

What's new?
Fri, Feb 8, 2002

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-'Junglepoo'

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Fish4Homes
Go to Fish4Homes
Fish4Cars
Go to Fish4Cars

to release funds.

Cllr Ian Bond said: "Clearly residents want us to get on with the survey. This will be a pioneering project for Redbridge - although we will not be able to deal with the safety issues that are a Government responsibility.

"I hope the survey will tell us more about the radiation created at ground level by these masts and about the extent of the area affected."

Redbridge Council is calling on residents of Carnarvon Road to specify which locations they want investigated.

February 8, 2002 11:30

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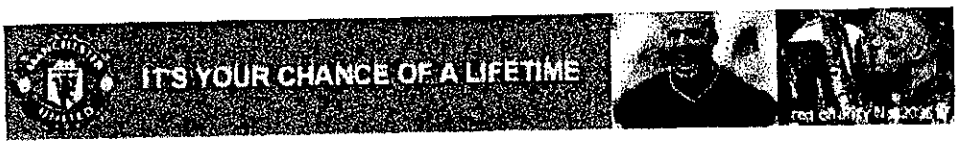

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For the attention of Ms.Heidi Lynch

14 Warren Road,
Woodley,
Reading RG5 3AP

Environmental Services Dept.
Planning Services,
Wokingham District Council,
P.O.Box 157,
Shute End,
Wokingham RG40 1WR

9 February 2002

PLANNING SERVICES | HPT
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CS |
11 FEB 2002
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FILE:

Dear Sir,

Planning Application TL/2002/5798

We wish to record our objection to the proposal by Orange PCSL to site an 11.8m.high free-standing telecommunications column at the location indicated in the above application.

Our main grounds for objection are that it would be an unsightly intrusion in an established residential area.

We also have other causes for concern: Notwithstanding the Declaration by Orange of conformity with ICNIRP Public Exposure Guidelines, our knowledge of electromagnetic fields and their effects on human beings is insufficient to understand the significance of this statement. Indeed, the Planning Application contains a lot of technical information which the average layperson will not comprehend. Our dwelling lies within the shaded area of the "beam of greatest intensity" - as also, just, does St.Dominic Savio R.C. School. There has been considerable public disquiet over the siting of these masts from a health point of view. Until the issues raised by these fears have been properly and completely answered, we do not wish to have such a mast imposed upon us so close to our dwelling. Surely Orange (guided by Wokingham District Council) should be looking for locations to site these installations well away from large concentrations of housing - not right in the middle of one !

Yours faithfully,

Mr.& Mrs.J.G.Tidmarsh

J. Tidmarsh.

P.S. As at today's date, i.e.8 days into the consultation period, no orange planning application notice has yet been posted at the site of this proposal.

Copied to Woodley Town Council

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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

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3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

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To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

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Yours Sincerely: Michael Malton

Name: MICHAEL MALTON

Address: 15 EYNSHAM CLOSE
WOODLEY
RG5 4LF

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

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Yours Sincerely: E.W. Camm.

Name: E.W. CAMM.

Address: 12 RADCOT CLOSE
WOODLEY
RG5 3BG.

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Application: TL/2002/5798

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: PETER WOODRUFF

Address: 46, RADCOT CLOSE
WOODLEY. BERKS
RG5 3BG.

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Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Application: TL/2002/5798

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: MAUREEN & ROBIN CURD

Address: 44 RADCOT CLOSE
WOODLEY
RG5 3BG



Stewart report:
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http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Application: TL/2002/5798

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: S R Clark. J Clark.
MR. S. R. CLARK. MRS. J. CLARK.

Address: 16, RADCOT CLOSE
WOODLEY BERKS
RG5 3BG.

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

Mr. & Mrs. P Harding

40 Radcot Close
Woodley Reading
RG5 3BG
Berkshire
England
TEL: 44 07785 280 525
Email: marysia@ompa.net

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11 FEB 2002

GOES TO: ACK: ✓22/2 FILE:

February 7, 2002

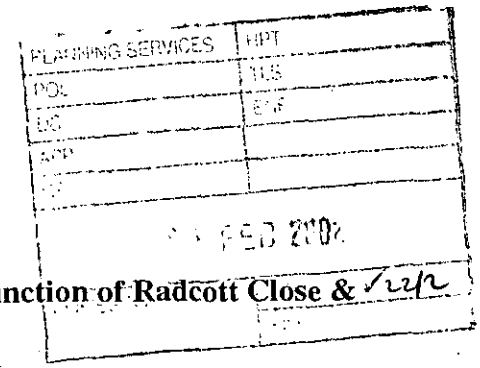
Attention: Ms Heidi Lynch

RE ' Application number ~~TL/2002/5798~~

We are writing to inform of our objection to the proposed erection of a 11.8m telecommunications column with antenna. We strongly believe that the site address is located in a high-density suburban area, which is totally unsuitable for such development. There are doubts over the safety of emissions regardless of level, not being conducive to the health of those living in close proximity. You need only look into the ongoing studies into the side effects related to microwave radiation and the use of mobile phones – in particular the effects on children, to see that there is reasonable doubt. This is all the more important due to the close location of St Dominic Savio School.
This development is not for the progress of the residents but purely a financially motivated decision made by a telecommunications company whose interests are self serving. It has deterred us from buying in the past properties near such erections and we are sure this would be the case for others.
Please do not let it come to be.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Piers Harding and Mrs M E Harding



Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: A. J. Blewett

Address: 36 RADCOT CLOSE
WOODLEY RG5 3BG

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Yours Sincerely: B Murphy

Name: MR + MRS A. MURPHY

Address: WYNDHAM
WESTERN AVE
WOODLEY
BERKS RG5 3BH

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F.A.O Ms Heidi Lynch.

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I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: T G Denby M. A. Denby

Name: Mr. T. G DENBY Mrs M. A. DENBY.

Address: 28 RADCOT CLOSE
"
WOODLEY
READING
BERKS
RG 5 3BG

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

PLANNING SERVICES	MPT
POL	TLS
DC	ENF
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CS	

13 FEB 2002

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: JOHN BUNDY KAREN BUNDY.

Address: 42 RAYCOT CLOSE
WOOSLEY
READING
BERKS
RG5 3DG

Stewart report:
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PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
POL	TLS
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13 FEB 2002	
	FILE:

Application: TL/2002/5798

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Name: Margaret & Bryan Rippingale

Address: 14 Radcot Close
Woodley
RG5 3BG

Stewart report:
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PLANNING SERVICES | HPT
POL | TLS
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13 FEB 2002
COPIES TO: | ACK: ✓ 22/2

Application: TL/2002/5798

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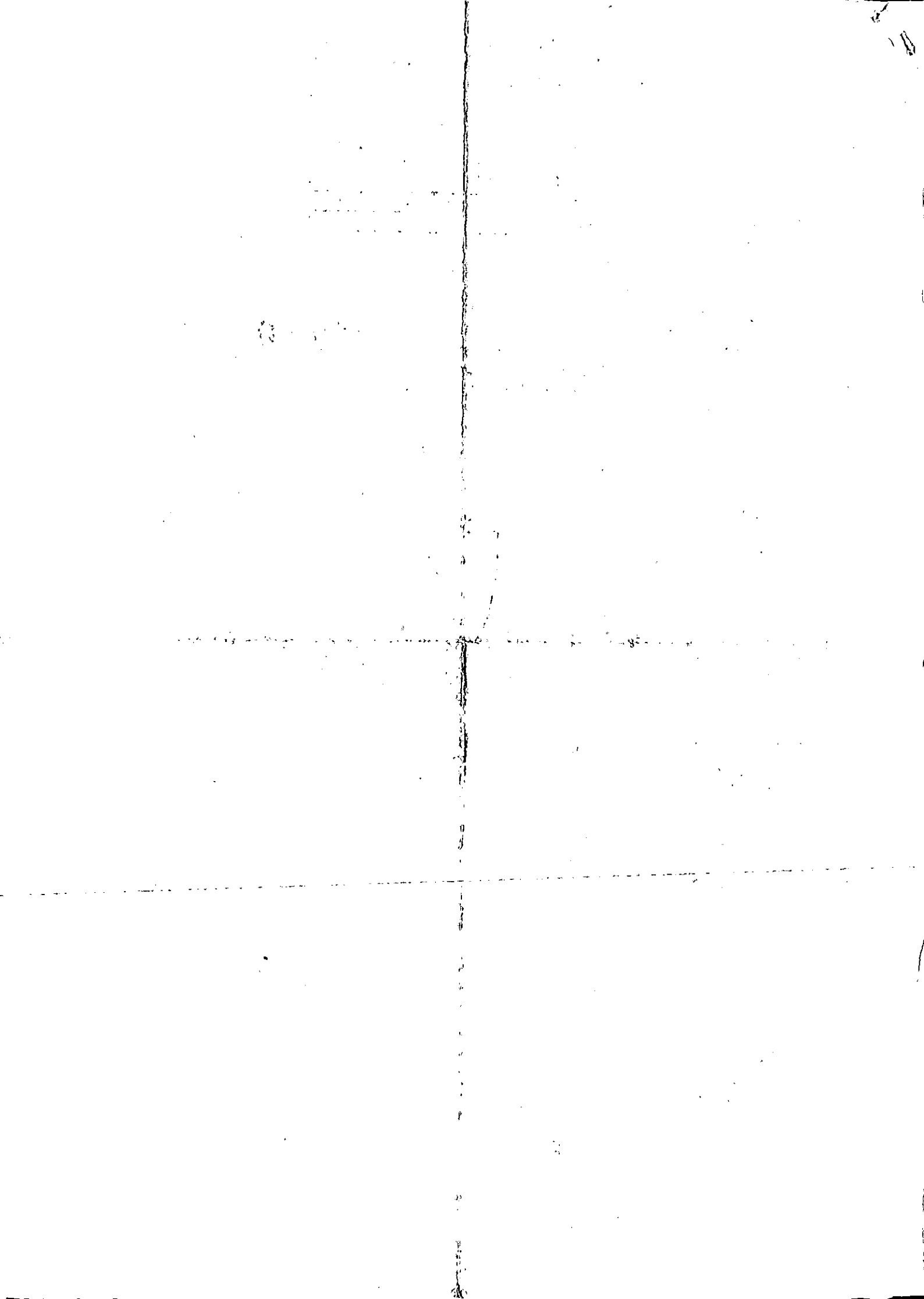

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: W. A. TUBB

Address: 10 RADCOT CLOSE
WOODLEY
READING RG5 3BG

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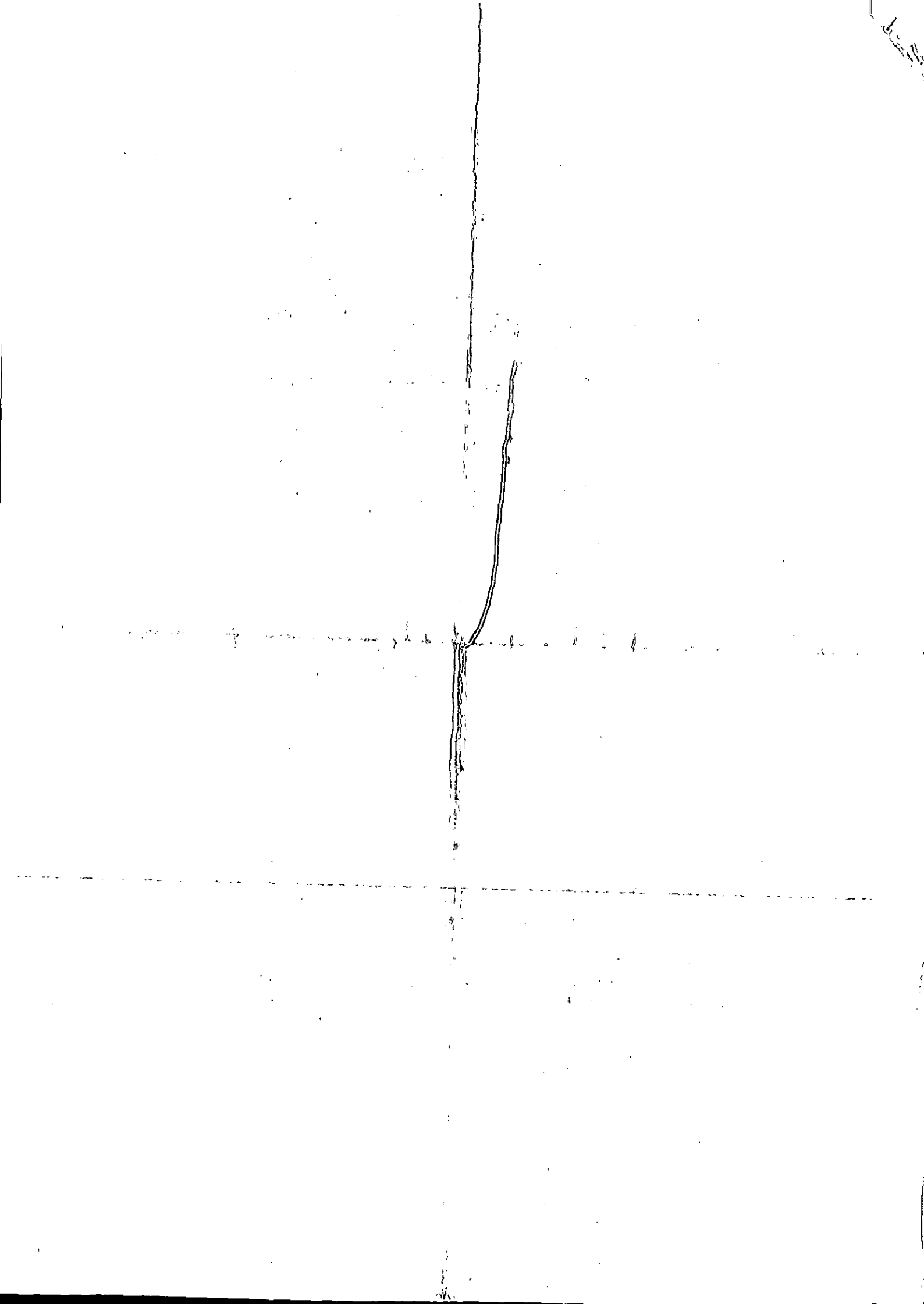
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

N.B I am particularly concerned with the proximity to the school + therefore for the health of the Children in the area.



PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
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11 FEB 2002

COPIES TO: ACK: 22/2

FILE:

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcot Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

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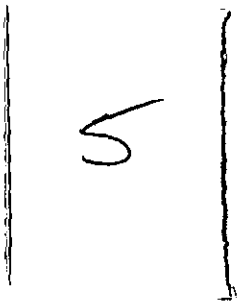

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: MRS SUE BARKER

Address: 7 RYECROFT CLOSE
WOODLEY
BERKS
RG5 3BP.

NIGEL BARKER
7 RYECROFT CLOSE
WOODLEY
RG5 3BP

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
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PLANNING SERVICES	RPT
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12 FEB 2002

FILE

Application: TL/2002/5798

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Name: Lesley Astbury

Address: 1 Ryecroft Close
Woodley
Reading
RG5 3BP

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PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
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Yours Sincerely:

Name: PETE + KIM ROGERS + 2 DAUGHTERS (11, 15)

Address: 10 RYECROFT CLOSE,
WOODLEY,
READING, BERKSHIRE
RG5 3BP

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Application: TL/2002/5798

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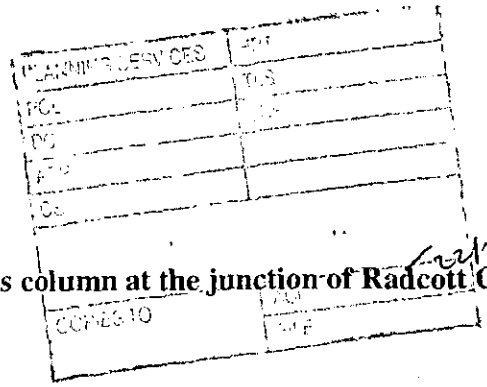

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The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: R.G. Teagle S Teagle

Name: R.G. TEAGLE S. TEAGLE

Address: 5 RYECROFT CLOSE
WOODLEY
RG5 3BP

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

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Yours Sincerely: H-J2 E.P.M. Davis

Name: H J 2 E P M DAVIS

Address: 11, RYECROFT CLOSE, WOODLEY RG5 3BP

Stewart report:
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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

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8

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I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely:

Name: JOHN POWELL

Address: 4 GODSTOW CLOSE
WOODLEY
READING RG5 4LE

Stewart report:
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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Raddott Close & Western Avenue.

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Yours Sincerely: Derek Clark

Name: DEREK CLARK

Address: 6, GODSTOW CLOSE
WOODLEY, READING
RG5 4LE

Stewart report:
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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: P. G. BLACKBURN

Address: 20 GODSTOW CLOSE
WOODLEY
READING
RG5 4LE

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

32 Warren Road
Woodley
Reading
RG5 3AR
8th February 2002

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Case Officer
Att Heidi Lynch
Wokingham District Council
P.O.Box 157,
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

Re Plan No. TL/2002/5798

Dear Heidi

Please treat this letter as objections to the above planning application,

We are the owners of 32 Warren Road in respect of the above application.

Having studied the plans, particulars and site specific circumstances, we raise **"objections"** to the outline proposal on the following grounds.

An erection of a 11.8m approx 33ft antenna is totally out of character in a residential area and the environment.

It could be major problem with children and the nearby school.

Safety and Radiation Hazard.

Yours Sincerely

Mr R. Mehta

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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

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Yours Sincerely: M J Maureen E Sangster

Name: ERIC & MAUREEN SANGSTER

Address: 2 WARREN RD
WOODLEY RG5 3AP.

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Application: TL/2002/5798

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Yours Sincerely: Hazel Robinson

Name: 19 GODSTOW CLOSE HAZEL ROBINSON

Address: WOODLEY
READING
RG5 4LE

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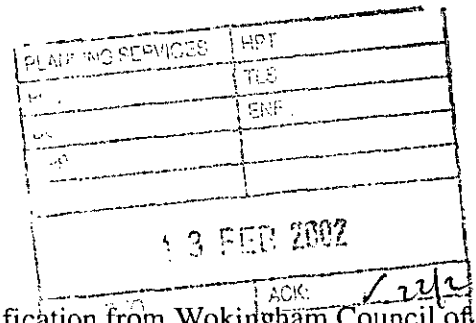

Dear Woodley Resident,

You may have received notification from Wokingham Council of an application by Orange to erect a telecommunications mast at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue. I estimate that your house is within 250m of this site and as outlined in the attached letter the beam of maximum intensity could fall near to your property.

The attached letter lays out some details as to the scientific case and current recommendations. In my view there is no justification for such an installation and the risks associated with proximal RF emissions are simply unknown.

You may wish to raise your own specific complaints and issues, but there is value in presenting a common stance on the health issue so please read the attached letter and if you would also like to object to this installation on the grounds of safety, then sign and add your name + address to this letter and forward it BEFORE 20th Feb to:

Ms Heidi Lynch
Wokingham Council Planning Services
PO Box 157
Wokingham RG10 1WR

(I have informed the council that these letters have been distributed)
John Wann, Portelet, Western Avenue.

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach. " [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: Mr & Mrs D. Cooney.

Name: Mr & Mrs D. Cooney

Address: 7, Godstow close
Woodley Berks
RG5 4LE.

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

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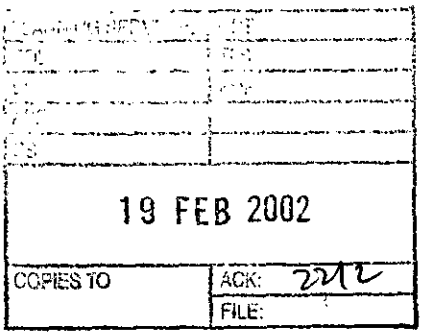
I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: R. A. Stock

Name: R A. STOCK

Address: 9 GODSTOW CLOSE
WOODLEY RG5 4LE

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm



7/8 Frampton Close
Woodley
Reading, Berks
RG5 3BS

18th February 2002-02-18

Heidi Lynch
P O Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

Dear Heidi,

My husband and I moved to the Woodley area 2 ½ years ago as we felt it would be a safe place to raise our family. We have two children aged 2 and 4.

We are therefore very upset at the plans to erect a mobile phone mast very near to our home. We are planning to send our children to St Dominic's School which is just opposite the planned site for the mast. Obviously our children will be vunerable to the electromagnetic fields and radiation that these masts emit and this is causing us a lot of sleepness nights. Why does this mast have to be erected in a residential area – surely there must be many other more suitable places for it? We really do not want to have to move from this area but will have to consider it if the mast is erected because of the health worries.

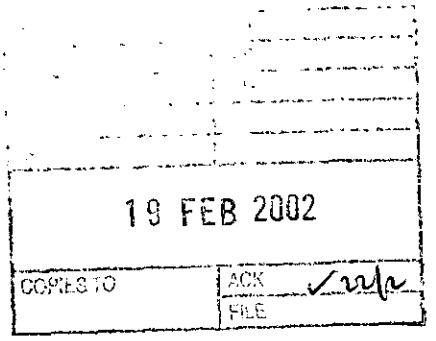
I would much appreciate hearing from you at your earliest convenience as to why a residential area has been chosen for this mast.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Salib (Mrs)

Cc: Teresa May MP
Peter Skinner, Emma Nicholson, Roy Perry MEPs
Terry Dredge Councillor





79 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berks RG5 3BL
17th Feb 2002.

FAO Heidi Lynch
Development Control Officer
Planning Services
P.O. Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham

Re : Application No : TL/2002/5798

Land at Junction of Radcot Close and Western Avenue Woodley, Reading.
Proposed erection of 11.8 metre high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni-directional antenna.

Dear Ms Lynch.

I have the following objections to this application.

Sighting

1. On a verge with trees and hedge owned and maintained by our neighbours.
2. At the head of a road junction. This will cause problems of visibility for turning cars during construction and maintenance.
3. Near a bend in Western Avenue which will cause visibility problems for traffic during construction and maintenance.
4. Narrow pavement which will mean that pedestrians will have to walk in the road during construction and maintenance.

Exposure to Radiation.

1. Near to St Dominics school less than 200 metres line of sight.
2. There are many young families and retired people at home all day in the immediate field of the radiation. They will receive continuous exposure.

3. Residents will be exposed to constant radiation as the mast is only 20 metres from their houses. If the mast was in a public open space each person would only be exposed for a short time.

Privacy and Screening.

1. During maintenance work with a "Cherry picker" type crane, there will be a loss of privacy as you will be able to see directly into the front bedroom windows of all of the adjacent houses.
2. The 3 metre hedge will not screen from view a 11.6 metre mast.
3. The 11.6 metre mast is too tall for this location.
4. The adjacent trees are deciduous so there is no screening during autumn and winter.

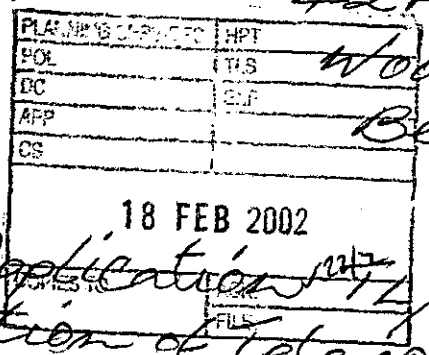
Need for a mast.

1. The signal in this area for Orange subscribers is strong.
2. Screening by the Sonning Cutting spoil bank to the North East reduces any signal coverage.



Clare Buchta

42A. Western Avenue
Woodley - Reading
Berks. RG5 3BH.
Feb 14th 2002.



Re. Application No. WL/2002/5798
Erection of Telecommunications Mast
at Junction of Radcott Close and
Western Avenue.

Dear Ms. Lynch,

I am writing to object to the siting of the telecommunications mast in Western Avenue.

I think it is a very unsuitable place to put a mast in a residential area and so very close to homes and also a school.

There is a great worry as to the safety of these masts and until it can be proved fully safe these masts should be placed well away from residential areas.

Yours sincerely

(KANAAIR) Valerie A Andrews

13, Western Avenue, Woodley, Berkshire RG5 3BJ. Tel. 0118 969 3276

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	FILE:

Heidi Lynch
P.O. Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

Dear Ms Lynch

Proposed Orange Phone Mast in Western Avenue Woodley

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed phone mast to be located in Western Avenue, Woodley. While we appreciate that mobile phones are here to stay we believe it is incumbent on the phone companies to seek to place their masts in locations which do not affect other people's lives.

The proposed site is in a residential area, a few hundred yards from a primary school. The potential risks to health caused by emissions from such masts has been well documented. Children under twelve are particularly vulnerable. We do not believe it is worth the risk.

The site does not lend itself to the possibility of screening the mast. We find it difficult to believe that allowing such an eyesore in a very attractive tree lined road would in any way enhance the lives of the residents. The potential for increased traffic from maintenance engineers would, we believe, be an additional hazard especially when parents are delivering or collecting their children or there is a service at the Catholic Church nearby.

We hope you will take note of our objections.

Yours sincerely

B A Ogde R. E. Ogde

R.E. & B.A. Ogden

17 Warren Road
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3AR

Tel: 0118 9 693506

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14-Feb-02

Dear Miss Lynch,

Mobile Phone Mast - Western Avenue
TL/2002/5798

I object to this proposal.

The benefits of mobile communication appliances are outweighed in this instance because the site proposed is far too close to houses and a school.

It is accepted that there may possibly be a health risk associated with such a mast and this should be of paramount importance in such a built up area.

I sincerely hope therefore that planning permission will not be given.

Yours sincerely

J. Miller

J.Miller

cc: Mrs Theresa May MP,House of Commons,London SW1A 0AA
Mr T Dredge,67 Welford Close,Woodley,Reading,RG5 4QS

Miss Heidi LYNCH
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham RG40 1WR

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79 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berks RG5 3BL
13th Feb 2002.

FAO Heidi Lynch
Development Control Officer
Planning Services
P.O. Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham

Re : **Application No : TL/2002/5798**

Land at Junction of Radcot Close and Western Avenue Woodley, Reading.
Proposed erection of 11.8 metre high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omidirectional antenna.

Dear Ms Lynch.

I have the following objections to this application.

1. **The justification for a mast at this position.**

Patrick Farfan sent a notice of intention to install apparatus to WDC on 30th January (Ref BRK7031). I have reviewed this notice and strongly dispute the need for this apparatus. The proposed site location was chosen for 9 reasons according to the notice:

Reasons 1, 2 and 3 "Network Coverage Blackspot".

Three members of our household have Orange Mobile phones, and we all get good coverage. I am within 3 metres of the proposed site every day and my handheld ORANGE phone indicates maximum signal strength at this position. We get clear reception and do not get blocked or disconnected. I am happy to demonstrate this to WDC officers at any time.

Reasons 5, and 6.

The cell is supposed to be 500 metres max, and the mast is stated as "close to the centre". Attached is a map of the area. You will see that 90 degrees or one quarter of the "cell" is not served by more than a few houses. The Railway line to the top of the map 200 metres away is the Sonning Cutting, a famous landmark with large tall spoilbanks. The signal will not pass through these banks which are significantly higher than the mast. I suggest that this "cell" is poorly chosen because it does not consider these factors.

Reason 7.

The proposed location is NOT within the public highway. This is on my neighbours land and he has clear title of ownership. Legal advice has been sought on this matter, and we are in correspondence with Land Registry and WDC legal department.

2. Ownership of the Proposed Site.

This land is owned by Mr Lupton of No 77 Western Avenue. Orange and WDC do not have permission to install equipment on this site.

3. Incorrect Procedures followed for the submission.

It is unlawful for the company not to erect a notice at the site for a minimum of 21 days to inform the local community. Why has this not been done? The local community should be made aware of the application.

4. Alternative sites.

Site a) Why are Woodley Town council not willing to provide this site ?

Site b) Was rejected because it is extremely close to residences. The proposed site is 20 metres from our houses.

Site c) Warren Road / Western Drive. Do they mean West Drive ? or Western Av?
Site rejected because close to a school. Which school?

Site d) Rejected because most of the residential area would not be covered. With this proposal 25% of the cell will not be covered – see section 1 above.

Site e) "Greens" problems with relationship with dwellings. What about the relationship with dwellings on Western Avenue?

Why have no Private sites been considered?

There are private sites in an elevated position on the Spoil bank along the railway line which would be more suitable and would give better coverage.
There is an electricity substation at the end of Western Avenue, and suitable position within the Railtrack boundary only 200 metres away.

Consider the Woodley allotments. This is in an elevated position which would cover the area identified as a "network coverage blackspot".

5. Health Grounds.

Many councils are starting to ban the installation of antennas from schools.
Woodley Town Council have refused to consider the installation of the mast near the Pavilion in the park where they are based.
European laws are starting to come into play, and in Spain mobile base stations are now being removed from schools.
The Government commissioned Sir William Stewart to report on Radiation from mobiles.

The report stated.

1.18) "There is now scientific evidence, however, which suggests that **there may be biological effects occurring at exposures below these (NRPB and ICNIRP) guidelines."**

(1.19) "We conclude therefore that it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and **that the gaps in knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach.**"

5. Summary.

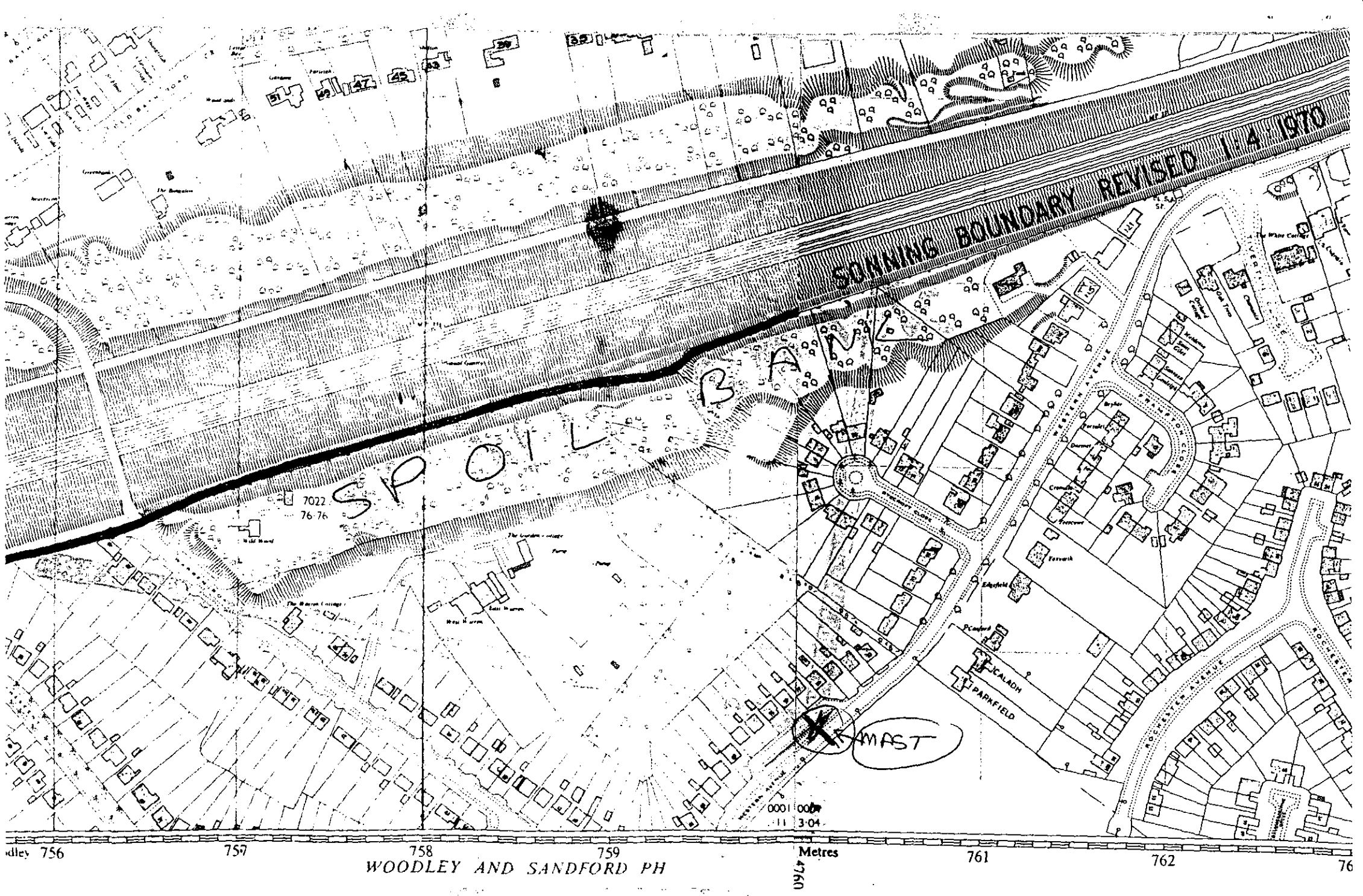
I dispute the case for mast in the position proposed. There is no clear need for a mast in this position, the arguments given for proposing this site in the Patrick Farfan notice are unsound and are easily disproved. The land ownership is under dispute, and alternative sites have been rejected for reasons that we also have. Finally the Stewart Report has concluded that there is a doubt about radiation levels causing adverse health and proposed a precautionary approach.

6. Recommendations.

I suggest the WDC reject this proposal and ask Orange to reconsider whether the "cell" is needed and if so where? Alternative Private sites should be considered that are not close to existing houses.

Kevin V. Buchta 13th Feb 2002

Kevin Buchta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WOODLEY AND SANDFORD PH

...2002 57...

Patrick Farfan

Our Ref: BRK7031
Your Ref:

Salamander Quay West
Park Lane
Harefield
Middlesex
UB9 6NZ

Tel +44 (0)1895 823700
Fax +44 (0)1895 821214
lrog@patrickfarfan.com
www.patrickfarfan.com

The District Planning Officer
Wokingham District Council,
PO Box No.157,
Shute End,
Wokingham,
Berkshire,
RG40 1WR.

30 January 2002

Dear Sirs

NOTICE

Proposed installation of Orange PCS Ltd Microcell BRK7031 at: Northern Footway, Junction Western Avenue/Radcot Close, Woodley, Reading, Berkshire, RG5 3BL.

Notice of intention to install telecommunications apparatus pursuant to:

1. The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (England) Order 2001 (Schedule 2 Part 24).

2. The licence granted to Orange Personal Communications Limited under Section 7 of the Telecommunications Act 1984.

I confirm that we act on behalf of Orange PCS Ltd in submitting this application.

Background and Need

Orange Personal Communications Services Ltd is a Telecommunications Code System Operator. The Orange Network is in direct commercial competition with other communications systems, both wire free and fixed line/cable. Orange Personal Communication Services Limited is licensed under the Telecommunications Act 1984 to run a mobile radio telecommunications system and to provide mobile radio telecommunication services.

In addition to voice transmissions there is an increasing need for the transmission of data also. To this end Orange has purchased a UMTS Licence as auctioned recently by the British Government. A further range of services is to be offered to the public and businesses including direct Internet access and video pictures, wire free, via the mobile phone, giving the consumer a more competitive and wider choice of services to choose from.

Orange 3G Ltd has been licensed to provide and maintain a UMTS telecommunications service to an area where at least 80% of the population of the UK live by 31 December 2007.

Cont...

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Offices throughout the UK and Europe.

Registered in England Company Reg No 2875575 VAT Reg No GB 628944109

Mobile phone usage has grown exponentially since its introduction and has now developed to a point where the existing infrastructure is struggling to cope with the sheer number of users. As well as upgrading existing sites, new sites are required to facilitate:-

a. growth, (both short term and to meet projected demands on the service)

b. coverage, (the ability to deliver a service to the customer and uphold licence obligations)

c. Third generation technology.

The Orange Network is in direct commercial competition with other communications systems such as BT and cable operators.

Orange are sensitive to the fact that many residential settlement locations do not lend themselves to the siting of Macrocells, commonly Rooftop Stub Masts or 15m high lattice masts or columns with a 12m square fenced compound from a siting and appearance aspect.

With a requirement to provide a service to residential and commercial properties, in keeping with the Code of Best Practice, Orange have taken advantage of improvements in technology to reduce visual impact and developed the Microcell, the proposal fulfils PPG8 Appendix – Supporting Guidance paragraph 77 "*The telecommunications industry is encouraged to continue to develop innovative design solutions, in terms not only of the structure of masts and antennas but also the materials and colouring. A number of different design solutions are currently available. These include masts designed to look like trees or street furniture*".

The Proposal

This is a stand-alone steel column with an internally mounted telecommunications antenna. It has been designed to match existing street furniture such as Lampposts or telegraph poles. The base of the column has a diameter of 0.219m, which narrows to 0.167m for the upper 9.8 m, comparable to many other items of street furniture.

However, unlike BT, Orange do not need to site telegraph poles every 30m or so, they do not need to fly overhead lines or, unlike Cable Operators, dig up miles of footway and carriageway.

Orange need only deploy a limited number of carefully sited telecommunications columns to provide coverage to the entire local area. The column and cabinet can be painted to match a particular Local Authority colour scheme if required.

Although the proposal is for an item of street furniture that exceeds the height of other equipment in the locality, this is not seen as causing an adverse impact within the street scene. A recent appeal decision in Watford considered two such microcells, in that case, each being 10m in height with existing lamp columns being 6 - 7 m. The Inspector stated in allowing the appeal, "Although taller than the numerous steel and concrete lamp columns, the pole would share the same fundamental character of a neat and slender item of street furniture. ...The proposed pole would be significantly taller than these features but would nevertheless be seen in the company of existing street furniture of a slender and vertical character. The very proximity of the nearest house at 23 Stratford way also means that the pole would be seen in close association with the much bulkier structure." Appeal Refs APP/Y1945/A01/1060758&9.

Cont...

Microcell technology has been in use for some time and these small, low powered installations have successfully been deployed in cities, towns, villages and sensitive areas all over the UK.

Orange propose just one Microcell site to cover the residential area north of Woodford Park

Orange Personal Communications Ltd hereby give notice as required under the terms of their Licence and make application for determination with regard to details of siting and appearance pursuant to Part 24, Class A, Condition A.2(4A) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (England) Order 2001 in respect of the following development:

The erection of a free-standing telecommunications steel column maximum 11.8m in height with 1 No omni directional antenna will be installed.

In conjunction with the above column, an equipment cabinet will also be installed with an overall dimension of 0.98 cubic metres.

Location.	OS Grid Ref: E 476020 N174050
Address.	Northern Footway, Junction Western Avenue/Radcot Close, Woodley, Reading, Berkshire, RG5 3BL
Enclosures:	Planning Drawing Nos. 30/BRK7031/01 Location plan (1:1250) Site Layout plan (1:100 & 1:250) Elevations of column and cabinet (1:100)
	Copy of Developers notice.
	Technical information including confirmation of ICNIRP compliance and power output.
	Prescribed Fee. £190.00.

Justification

The area is defined primarily as urban, meaning that Orange requires coverage levels of >=-75dBm or better. This is defined on the coverage drive by areas coloured orange, red or pink. Those areas coloured green, blue or black show insufficient coverage for our requirements. The figure of >=–75dBm was evaluated to ensure that an Orange customer will be able to make a mobile phone call inside a building, without the call cutting out due to poor coverage levels. The calculation is based on the Oftel confidence level of a two-minute call having a 95% success rate of completion. As shown by the coverage drive, the required coverage level is not achieved in much of the target coverage area. For clarity, a second coverage drive has been included showing the same drive in two colours. Orange shows sufficient level of coverage for Orange's requirements, and blue shows insufficient levels of coverage. Clearly, there is a substantial amount of blue signal level in the area surrounding the site.

Cont...

The north Woodley area is planned with a Orange Micro cell, which are designed with very localised coverage. This aims to give a good level of coverage within between 200 to 500 metres of the site, dependent on the type of the site.

The proposed site location was chosen for the following reasons:-

1. The increase in mobile phone usage has placed a strain on existing Orange installations in the locality, where they are struggling to provide satisfactory network coverage to existing customers, due to the lack of mobile radio base stations in the immediate area.

2. This area is presently a network coverage blackspot due to its distance from adjacent base stations at BRK0088 Headley Park and BRK0013 Bulmershe. High trees in the vicinity of BRK0088 Headley Park further shield the signal.

3. The base station's call-carrying resources are operating at the maximum and no additional calls can be carried. This can result in the 'Network Busy' message being displayed on the phone and a subscriber will be unable to make a call, even though their phone may be indicating a number of signal bars.

4. It will improve coverage in the area north of Woodford Park, unless additional sites are added to the network to make sufficient traffic channels available in the area, Orange customers will experience blocked calls.

5. The Microcell is a low powered installation and cell coverage is typically 500m max, depending on topography and surrounding screening such as trees and tall buildings.

6. The height of the slender profile column in this location close to the cell centre will maximise coverage and limit the number of installations.

7. The proposed location is within the public highway. Adjacent low trees will soften the impact of the column.

8. The column and cabinet are of similar dimensions to other street furniture in the general area so as to blend with the existing street scene.

9. The site is not within a conservation area.

<u>Alternative sites</u>

Other locations considered and rejected include;

a. Ground to the rear of 97 Haddon Drive Woodley RG5 4LY, this location is on the perimeter of the area to be served, 400m from the cell centre. The land is believed to be owned by Woodley Town Council and they are not willing to provide this site, there is less planting to soften the impact.

Cont...

b. Verge adjacent to Substation 42, Ravensbourne Drive, Woodley RG5 4LG, the location is extremely close to residences, no natural landscape features and consequently, visual impact will be greater.

c. Verge junction of Warren Road/Western Drive, very prominent position surrounded by taller trees and close to a school. Highways may have concerns in respect of visibility splays.

d. Woodford Park, no suitable locations, School, Playgrounds, Nurseries, Open parkland, regarded as the more sensitive areas where public interest is heightened. Most of the area covered would not be residential, but open space, therefore not providing an effective service.

e. 'Greens' within residential housing around Ravensbourne Drive/Radcot Close, problems with accessibility and relationship with dwellings.

Technical Considerations

When siting the Microcell Telecommunications column, consideration was given to the use of existing structures. Investigations revealed that there were no mast share opportunities available that could serve the target area or tall buildings to use that would meet the specific technical requirements for achieving coverage in this area.

The siting of the Microcell is critical to maximise coverage whilst keeping the number of installations to a minimum. The purpose of the Microcell is to improve coverage and call capacity at street level and into buildings where the signal from the larger Macrocells is absorbed by buildings, trees etc. This site will provide enhanced coverage for in building coverage around 200-500 m radius of this site.

Signal strength calculations have been provided for this site

For BRK7031 the power density has been calculated to the nearest building, this building is 20m from the proposed site. From these calculations, the maximum power density experienced at the front of the property will be 0.126479W/m^2 or 1.4053% of the maximum public exposure level defined by ICNIRP.

As shown by these calculations, the signal strength is many times below the ICNIRP investigation level for areas accessible to the public. However, these calculations are based on a desktop study, and, in reality, the levels experienced will be many times lower than those calculated. This is because the calculations are based on a 'worst case' scenario and do not take into account the effects of topographic features in the area, such as trees, which would have a negative effect on the signal.

PPG8 Telecommunications paragraph 30 confirms; 'It is the Government's firm view that the planning system is not the place for determining health safeguards. It remains central Government's responsibility to decide what measures are necessary to protect public health. In the Government's view, if a proposed mobile phone base station meets the ICNIRP guidelines for public exposure it should not be necessary for a local planning authority, in processing an application for planning permission or prior approval, to consider further the health aspects and concerns about them.'

Cont...

Whilst PPG8 acknowledges the legal point that health concerns, including public perception can be a material consideration, it does make it very clear the way Government policy expects this to be applied in the planning process.

The slender design of the equipment, is to mitigate the siting and appearance of this installation, due to the reduced power a Microcell has a limited effective radius around 500m. This proposed location is near the centre of the target area. Existing Buildings in the target area are not suitable for affixing Microcell equipment due to their height, construction, location and that they are all residential properties that would be unsuitable for this type of development. There are no existing masts within the cell area.

In addition PPG8 Telecommunications paragraph 31 states; 'In the Government's view, local planning authorities should not implement their own precautionary policies e.g. by way of imposing a ban or moratorium on new telecommunications development or insisting on minimum distances between new telecommunications development and existing development'.

Local Plan Policy

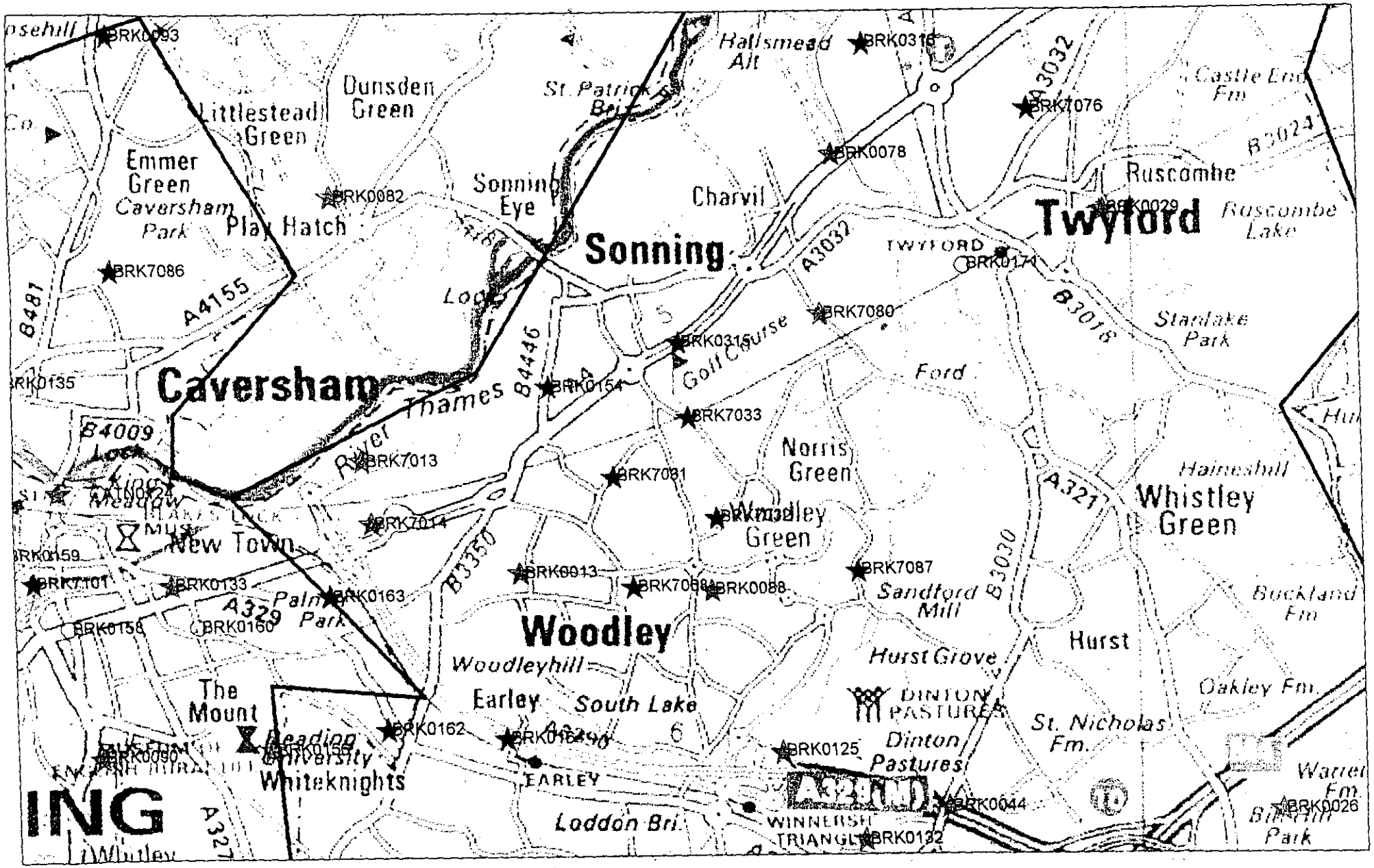
The applicants are aware of Local Plan policies relating to telecommunications, in particular WIC 14. There has, however, been concern in the manner in which this has been applied by your authority. Planning consultants acting for Orange have sought clarification but, unfortunately, replies to letters have not been forthcoming. Nevertheless, it is asserted that the proposal is in accord with the objectives of both your policies and those contained within the Structure Plan.

Although proximity to residential properties should not be an issue, given the degree of compliance with ICNIRP, by considerable factors, the applicants are aware of the sensitivity of this matter. Where practical, an attempt has been made to give a degree of separation. However, given the need to provide coverage to the urban areas, proximity to places occupied by people is inevitable. It should nevertheless be stressed that microcells operate at much lower power than macro base stations.

Conclusions

- The application is a prior approval determination where your authority may wish to consider details of siting and design.
- The design is such as to be readily assimilated into the street scene in the way other street furniture has been accommodated.
- Central Government policy is very clear on the manner in which health considerations should be dealt with. The proposal will be fully compliant with the precautionary ICNIRP standards by significant factors.
- An appraisal of alternative sites has revealed that there are no alternatives that would be more suitable than that now proposed.
- The proposal meets the objectives of Local and Structure Plan policies.
- The development strikes the right balance of meeting operator's needs whilst limiting the impact on the environment.

Cont...



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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

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3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

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5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: Mr R Hayden R Hayden

Address: 11 Eynsham Close
Woodley
Reading
RG5 4LF

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: Miss C. Taylor C Miss Taylor

Address: 11 Eynsham Close
Woodley
Reading
RG5 4LF

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

MR P & MRS D WRIGHT

COURTWAY
26 WARREN ROAD
WOODLEY
READING BERKS
RG5 3AR
01189694278

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14 February 2002

Heidi Lynch
PO BOX 157
Shute End
Wokingham Berks
RG40 1WR

RE; TL/2002/5798

Dear Ms Lynch,

I was most perturbed to see the planning application for a mobile phone mast to be erected in Western Ave. It is beyond my comprehension how the council even consider erecting such an eyesore in a residential area. These masts should only be allowed to be put on the top of high buildings or in places where they will not affect the public.

I have two young children, and would be seriously worried about the effects a mast such as this would have on their health. There is also a school very close by which also would be affected.

I understand that these masts also cause interference with other electrical items in your home, and of course wild life nearby would be disrupted.

I am sure that if this mast were proposed to be erected outside your home you would feel the same! .

Yours sincerely,

DG Wright

60 WESTERN AVENUE
WOODLEY
READING
RG53BH
TEL 01189692749

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14th February 2002

Re: Application TL/2002/5798
Erection of Telecommunications Mast at Junction of Radcott Close and Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch,

I am writing to object to the siting of the telecommunications mast in Western Avenue. I am not against mobile phones but against the proposed position of this mast in the middle of a residential area so close to our homes.

Objection :1 The proposed mast and equipment cabinet are within two metres of the edge of the road. when any servicing is carried out this will require anyone using the pavement to step into the road, as this is a busy through road injuries or fatalities could result. (Has a risk assessment been carried out on the siting of this structure?)

Objection: 2 The local residents have not been consulted prior to the planning application as stated in **PPG 8.** Only Woodley Town Council was consulted.

Objection: 3 Orange in siting this mast are not following the mast sharing guidelines of **PPG8 para 66** as other masts are well sited in the area and antenna could be fitted to these to cover this area.

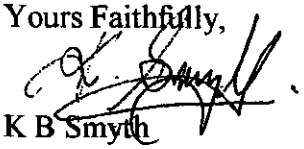
Objection: 4 Orange state in their notice that the alternative site at Woodford Park is unsatisfactory due to school and playground, the proposed mast is within 250 metres of St Dominic's school in direct conflict with the Stewart report recommendations.

Objection: 5 Orange state in their notice under proposed site locations that this area is a network coverage blackspot they have shown no evidence to support this claim in their notice. In fact we could find no one in the area who had a problem with reception on Orange mobile phones but could find Orange users at no's60/64 Western Avenue who stated their reception was excellent.

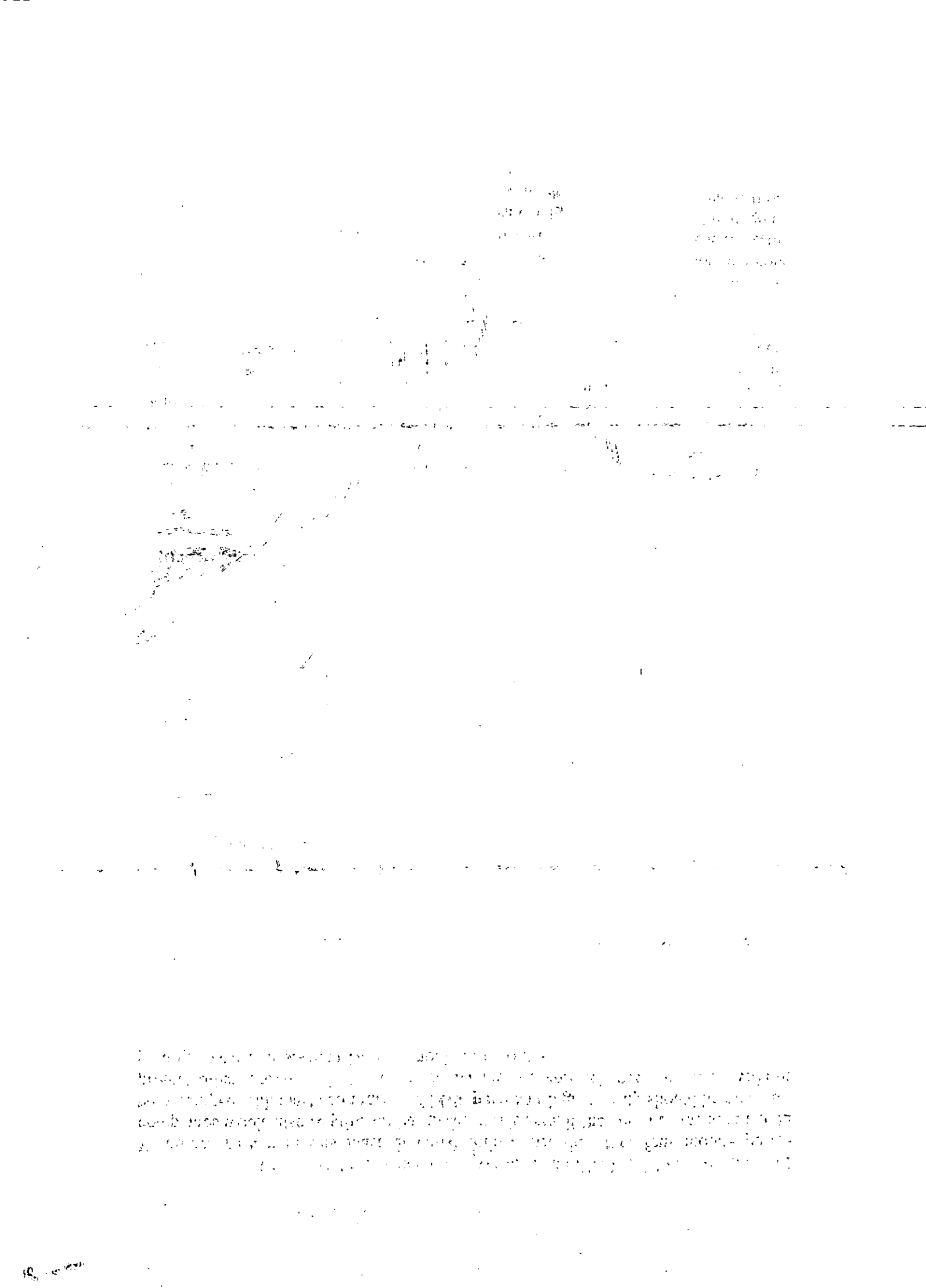
Objection: 6 Orange state they need to cover an area of 200 to 500 metres north of Woodford park with this mast, it could follow that the other four mobile phone companies would also require similar masts in this area, if they do then the area would be swamped with masts contrary to **PPG8 para 64** (high priority should be given to protect urban areas) If the other companies are able to cover this area without putting up extra masts then Orange should also do this.

The technology of microwave radiation communication **has not yet been proved as fully safe.** I and my neighbours have deep seated concerns and worries regarding mobile masts and their perceived detrimental effect on health grounds. Only last month there have been reports in the press of an increase in cancer in schoolchildren who are in proximity of these masts. Studies are taking place at this moment, until these are finalised Wokingham Unitary authority should follow the example of the USA, Europe and New Zealand and not site these masts within 500 meters of any residential areas.

Yours Faithfully,



K B Smyth



59 Westerly Ave.
Woodley. Berks.
RG5 3BL.
14.2.02.

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Application No T/0/2002/5798
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Dear Ms Lynch.

I am writing to you in protest of the planning application for an Orange telecommunications mast in Westerly Ave.

We have lived here for 28 years. It had been our intention to sell the above property this Spring due to my husbands disabilities for a more convenient move into a bungalow. With the above planning application, we would be unlikely to attract any buyers.

21

My husband and I join all other residents of Western Ave and its surrounding roads to strongly protest. The structure of the mast is hideously ugly and certainly not in keeping with the excellent residential area in which we live. Added to which are the health risks which could possibly occur.

There are I know many acres of <u>unused</u> land at the Reading Road allotment site – which would be much more suitable.

Yours faithfully,
Gwendoline Clark.

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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: Charles and Gwendoline Clark.

Address: 59. Westhorn Ave.
Woodley.
RG5 3BL.

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
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Yours Sincerely:

Name: [signature]

Address: 34 RADCOT CLOSE
WOODLEY, READING,
BERKSHIRE. RG5 3BG.

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: Tom MALONE

Address: 74 WESTERN AVENUE
WOODLEY RG5 3BH

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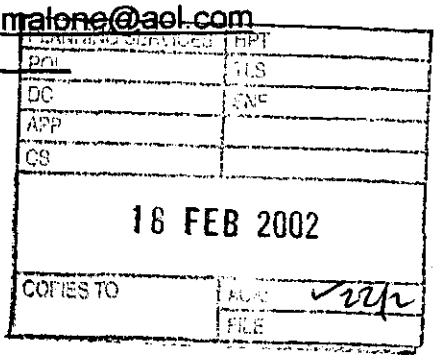
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

Tom Malone
74 Western Avenue, Woodley, Berkshire, RG5 3BH.
Tel & Fax 0118 9694743 or 07976 799938. Email timalone@aol.com



Ms Heidi Lynch
Wokingham District Council
P.O. Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

15 February 2002

Dear Ms Lynch

Planning Application TL/2002/5798
Erection of Telecommunication Mast

As can be seen from my address I live very close to the site of the above planning application and wish to object to its approval by Wokingham District Council.

Apart from they're unsightly appearance and the irritating noise which these telecommunications masts can produce it is alleged by specialists and medical professionals, that these masts can also produce outputs including, levels of radiation likely to cause ill health and possible acceleration of cancers in humans which have to live or work in their close proximity. I would bring to your attention the proximity of St Dominic's Primary School to the proposed application site.

These telecommunications masts should therefore not be allowed consent to operate in residential areas or near residential areas.

As a ratepayer I believe I have a right to expect Wokingham District Council to yield on the side of caution in this instance and reject this planning application.

Yours sincerely

Tom Malone

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FILE:

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... *it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach.* " [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely:

C M Mannering

Name: MRS C MANNERING

Address: 2 RYECROFT CLOSE
WOODLEY
BERKS
RG5 3BP

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue..

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Yours Sincerely: R.B. Townsend

Name: MR. R.B. TOWNSEND

Address: 9, RYECROFT CLOSE, WOODLEY, READING RG5 3BP

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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	FILE: 12th

Mr & Mrs Maguire
27 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3BJ

12th February 2002

Heidi Lynch
PO Box 157
Shooters End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

Dear Ms Lynch

Ref: TL-202-5798

We write in respect of the recent communication received regarding the erection of a mobile communications mast in Western Avenue, Woodley.

As a family resident in Western Avenue for more than 10 years we strongly object to this monstrosity. We have worked hard in keeping our property in a respectable order to improve its market value over the years. An erection of this sort would immediately de-value all property in the area, we find this totally unacceptable.

We have young family members who often come to stay for weekends and school holidays, we have thoroughly researched the health implications of the masts and have been advised that they are a great risk to young children, causing genetic damage which could undermine their academic achievement through later life. This is a risk that we do not care to take.

With our objections firmly in place we insist that you take into account our concerns before proceeding with this development.

Yours sincerely

Mr & Mrs M Maguire

M Maguire

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70 Ravensbourne Road
Woodley
Reading
Berks

Ms Heidi Lynch
Po box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

12 February 2002

Dear Ms Lynch

Ref. TL/2002/5798 MOBILE PHONE MAST - WESTERN AVE

As owner/residents we object to the installation at the above proposed site for the following reasons;

Health risks, with regards in particular to the health hazards it would pose to the high number of children attending St. Dominic Savio School and Nursery which are located only a couple of hundred metres away. We have a grandchild attending the school at present and are extremely concerned about the site which must take into consideration at least the health and safety of young children.

Visually unattractive. It will detract from the surrounding area and look unsightly.

Congestion/disruption - Western Ave. gets very congested at certain times of the day and if maintenance to the site is to be carried out this will lead to dangerous manoeuvres having to be made by passing vehicles and more importantly school children.

We absolutely do not want this mast in Western Ave. nor in any of the surrounding residential roads causing health hazards to local residents.

Yours sincerely

Mr G Bolger and Mrs A Bolger.

A. Bolger (Mrs)
G Bolger (Mr)

Ref:- Heidi Lynch TL/2002/5798

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18 FEB 2002

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FILE:

Wokingham Unitary
Planning Services
Wokingham
Berkshire.
RG40 1WR

12, Ryecroft Close,
Woodley,
Berkshire,
RG5 3BP

14th February 2002

Dear Sirs,

I am in receipt of your letter dated 1st February 2002 with regard to the proposed erection of an 11.8m free standing telecommunications column to be sited in Western Avenue – reference as above.

I wish to put forward my very strong objections to this proposal and like everyone else in the immediate vicinity am totally against a 40ft Telephone Mast being erected in what has to be a most unsuitable position.

There are many reasons for my objections, first and foremost has to be from the point of view of it being a health risk. It has yet to be proved that there is absolutely no risk to health and so it would seem totally wrong to have this Mast situated in a completely residential area and with St. Dominic's School less than 300mtrs from the proposed site.

I would briefly list my other reasons as follows:-

Health Risk: To every man, woman and child within its radius.

Children at risk: Because of the school more children will be at risk than just those resident in the area.

Noise: A continual and persistent irritation

General disruption: Which I understand can be caused night or day when maintenance work is required

TV Transmission: Possible disruption to the receiving of TV signals.

The Environment: Emissions may adversely affect our wildlife, in particular the Badgers that live here.

Visual Amenity: An eyesore in what has to be the most sought after residential area in Woodley

Property Value: Of great concern – such a huge, ugly monstrosity that may be a health risk is not going to encourage anyone to purchase in this area and we will see a decrease in property values.

Under no circumstances do I feel that Orange PCSL should be given planning permission for their telecommunications development to be sited in Western Avenue, North Woodley.

Yours faithfully,

H.A.Murray

c.c.
Teresa May MP
Peter Skinner/ Emma Nicholson/ Roy Perry – MEPs
Terry Dredge – Councillor
Colin George – Woodley Chronical
Meridian TV

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18 FEB 2002	
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S	FILE:

A. W. GOULD.
12. FRAMPTON CLOSE
WOODLEY.
READING. RG5 3BS

15th Feb. 2002.

WOKINGHAM D.C
PLANNING SERVICES
P.O. BOX. 157.
SHUTE END.
WOKINGHAM.
BERICS.

for the attention of Heidi Lynch
Planning Application NO. TL/2002/5798
Erection of Telecommunications Mast

Dear Sirs

In respect of the above planning Application, I wish to object to this proposal on the following grounds.—

1) There is an undefined health risk to all people in close proximity of these mobile phone masts. To my knowledge, although there have many cases made out to their damaging effect on health (and of as many denials) the Government Health Departments have not yet given a clear ruling on this subject.
In the light of this, and the proposal to erect such a mast so close to houses, and a school is an extremely risky proposition.

2) The effect of such a proposal, if permission were to be granted, would be disasterous to property owners in this area.
Just imagine trying to sell a house in the shadows of a telecommunications mast! It would not be unreasonable to claim compensation of say 10% of the value of their properties (on average well over £200,000 per house) from the Developers and the land owner, who surely are only motivated by Commercial greed.

3) I do confess to owning an "Orange Mobile phone", and although it has very limited use. I have never found any problem with reception — so why is there a need for further development

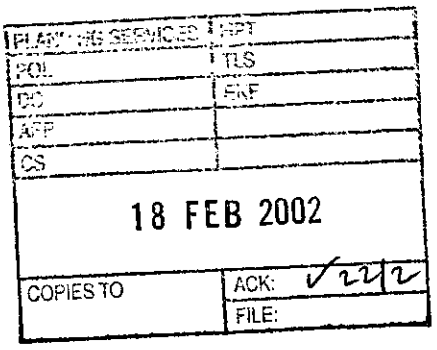
If Orange can provide undisputed proof that there is such a need, then at least consideration should be given to resiting the proposal. There are acres of land used as allotments close by in the Reading Road, and the siting of a telecommunications mast there would be far less hazardous to local Residents and users of the near by school.

I think in total there is an overwhelming case by local Residents to have this application refused, and if the Council have an interest in the well being of their Council Tax payers, then they too should have no hesitation in refusing this application

Yours sincerely

A W. Gould.

13th February 2002



Mr Peter Bartholomew
121 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3BL

Phone 0118 969 1450

Mrs H Lynch
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

My Reference: Phonemast/1/wdc

Planning application ref :- TL/2002/5798

Dear Heidi,

RE: Planning application ref :- TL/2002/5798 for a Telecommunications mast in Western Avenue Woodley.

I write in objection to this proposal.

The siting and design of the proposed mast will detract from, and adversely affect the amenity of the locality. I urge the local authority to invoke your powers under Article 4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995. I am sure the committee will agree that it would be expedient in order to protect the amenity of the locality, and for the good planning of the area, that an Article 4 order should be made.

Further, I am surprised that I have had, no formal notification from the district council of this application, bearing in mind the proximity of my property to such an enormous structure.

Also, at the proposed site there is no evidence of a formal application notice.

I find it hard to believe that consideration is being given to this application bearing in mind the very close proximity of so many residential properties.

The location that has been proposed really has to be seen to be believed !

Yours Sincerely,

Peter Bartholomew

3 Ryecroft Close,
Woodley,
Reading
RG5 3BP

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18 FEB 2002

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	FILE:

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

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I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: E.A. Bates

Name: E. A. BATES

Address:

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

12 Warren Road, Woodley, Reading, RG5 3AP
15 February 2002

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FAO Heidi Lynch
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham RG 40 1WR

Dear Ms Lynch **Re: TL/2002/5798**

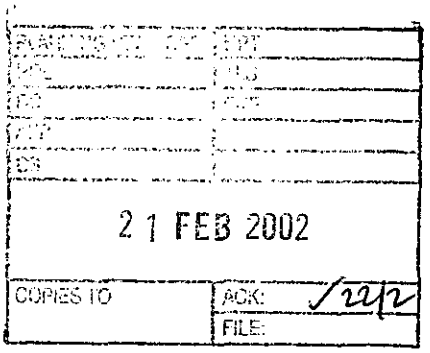
We wish to object to this proposal for two reasons, one particular and one general:

1) The mast will be only some 250-300 metres from the back of our house. While its visual impact on us may be fairly minimal, we are most unhappy at the possible health risks posed to occupants of our house by such equipment.
2) More generally, the mast will be yet another blight on what has been hitherto an unspoiled part of Woodley. It is easy to see who will gain from this mast - the telecommunications industry. It is equally easy to see whose quality of life, and financial circumstances, will be reduced by the proposed mast. If this, and the proposed housing development at East Warren/Warren Cottage, go through, residents on the north side of Western Avenue and the eastern side of Warren Road will have suffered a 'double whammy', environmentally and financially.

Yours sincerely

Michael Pursglove C. C. Pursglove

Michael Pursglove (Mrs) Catherine Pursglove



101 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BL
19th February 2002

Wokingham District Council
Planning Services
Application Number TL/2002/5798

Dear Ms, Lynch,

I would like to state my opposition to the plan to site a 40ft mobile telephone mast in Western Avenue, Woodley for the following reasons:-

1. A 40ft mast in my opinion constitutes visual pollution and would have a disastrous effect on the ambiance of the entire road and surounding neighbourhood.

2. Previous experience has shown that in high winds and bad weather there may be sustained noise pollution.

3. I understand that there have been occasions when electrical devices and receivers, i.e televisions have been disrupted. This is obviously not something I welcome.

4. Industry representatives and their lobbyists claim that there is no scientific evidence of a health risk from electromagnetic radiation however a report from Dr Neil Cherry of Lincoln University (10.2.98) "shows compelling evidence of athermal biological changes in cells and in animals which relate to brain function change,sleep disruption, chronic fatigue, reproductive problems and adverse health problems such as immune sysyem impairment and cancers in many organs. Epidemiological studies have identified statistically significant increases of the incidence of most of these symptoms and diseases associated with above average exposure to radio-frequency and microwave (RF/MW) exposure"

5. A further report concludes 'populations on the whole are not genetically homogenous and people can vary in their susceptibility to environmental hazards' and a recommendation was made that "a precautionary approach to the use of mobile phone technologies be adopted until more detailed and scientifically robust information on any health effects become available".

It is my belief that microwave transmitters should never be sited in close proximity to homes. Although questions on the health risks have not been proved to date I would like to remind councillors of the early controversy regarding electricity pylons, initial health concerns were dismissed but it has subsequently been proved that living close to overhead electric cables can cause leaukaemia.

I would also draw councillors attention to Warwickshire County Councils decision, in June 2000, to ban mobile phone masts from all council owned buildings until more research is done on the pontential health risks as current research is "contradictory and inconclusive".

Yours sincerely

Pauline Allen

Pauline Allen (Mrs)

115 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berks
RG5. 3BL

Ref. TL/2002/5798

PLANNING/HOUSING	HPT
DO	E.C.
AP	BMF
GS	

21 FEB 2002

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February 20th 2002.

Dear Sirs,

It has been brought to my attention that you propose to allow a 40ft Mobile Phone Mast in Western Avenue. I strongly object to this as I live in Western Avenue. There is not enough room for it, it will be right next to the pavement and very close to houses, the church and school.

There is plenty of room for it in the Woodford Park area without it being an eyesore to people living in the area.

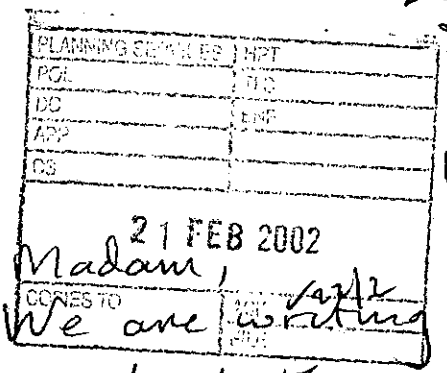
Yours Sincerely.

V. M. Thomas (Mrs)

5798

12 Sellafield Way
Lower Earley
Reading
Berks
RG6 3BT

19th February 2002



Dear Madam,

We are writing to express our concern about the erection of the telecommunications column by Orange PCSL on the junction of Radcot Close and Western Avenue.

Since we have a son at St. Dominic's school and that the long term effects of having these towers close to children for long periods of the day are as yet unknown, we are concerned. We would be happier if a site for this could be found further away from a primary school.

Yours sincerely

Richard Francis Cheung

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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

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4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach." [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

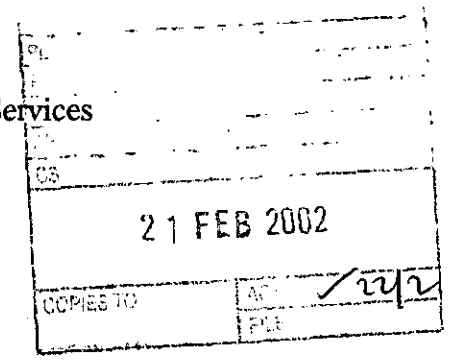
Yours Sincerely:

Name: D.E. GILBERT M. J. GILBERT

Address: 52 RADLOT CLOSE
WOODLEY
READING RG5 3BG

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

Ms Heidi Lynch
Development Control Officer
Wokingham Council Planning Services
PO Box 157
Wokingham
RG10 1WR



Mr Richard Allan
50 Radcot Close
Woodley
RG5 3BG

18th February 2002

Dear Madam,

Re: Permitted Development Application No. TL/2002/5798 by Orange PCSL

Location of Proposed Mast Erection – Land at Junction of Radcot Close and Western Avenue, Woodley

Please find detailed below objections to the proposed development.

Objection – That no one should have their health placed at risk when clear, unequivocal concerns have been raised by nationally appointed health bodies on the long term health effects of constant bombardment by microwave radiation. This technology has not yet been proved as safe. I (and the majority of my neighbours) have deep-seated concerns and worries regarding mobile masts and their perceived detrimental effect on health grounds. Current research on this matter has merely concentrated on the effects of tissue heating only from microwave emitting antenna. There is, however, a large body of scientific research that now challenges this view with regard to other possible symptoms such as increased cancer risk, sterility, effects on heart pacemakers etc. I refer you to the decision of Kent County Council not to allow any masts on council property because of health concerns.

Objection – That the "precautionary principle" recommended in the Government commissioned Stewart Report for the IEGMP (May 2000), which calls for a cessation in the erection of masts close to people until more was known about the possible health effects of masts, appears to have been ignored.

Objection – That the proposed mast will be an eyesore and that the proposal would have a detrimental effect on the locality generally, and on amenities that ought, in the public interest, to be protected. No consideration, or insufficient consideration has been given to Article 4 of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 as to the adverse effect the proposal will have on the amenity of the area.

Objection – That the proposed development in no way benefits the local community. Mobile 'phone coverage is more than adequate in this area.

Objection – That the proposed development is out of character with the local area.

Objection – That with the expected future concerns on mobile 'phone mast safety being similar to those recently raised regarding overhead power lines and television broadcast antennae, private property values will plummet in areas where masts have been erected in or near to residential properties. It is interesting to note that US and other European countries stipulate a minimum exclusion zone of 500m from mast sites to the vulnerable. The Stewart Report also recommends such exclusion zones.

Objection – That the proximity of the development to residential property will be invasive and intrusive. And thereby affect the amenity of the area. The site is inappropriate. As is the proposed design for this location. I urge you to consider the effect the size and design of this mast will have on the amenity of the local area, towering as it will some 12m into the air, which will contrast with the residential nature of the locality. PPG8 makes it clear that a rejection of permitted development permission is acceptable for base stations should the LPA conclude that it would have an adverse effect on the amenity of the area.

Observation – Under current legislation, including the relevant Health & Safety Guidelines and the European Human Rights Act, there is already the very real potential for individual litigation processes to be instigated against Local Authorities, corporate bodies or individuals involved in any way in the approval, erection and operation of apparatus proposed in this and similar applications. It is therefore advised that you seriously consider investigating the legality and consequences, whether current or future, of your involvement in any approval of this and other similar applications in this area.

I look forward to your official response to the points raised above, and I urge you to reject this application.

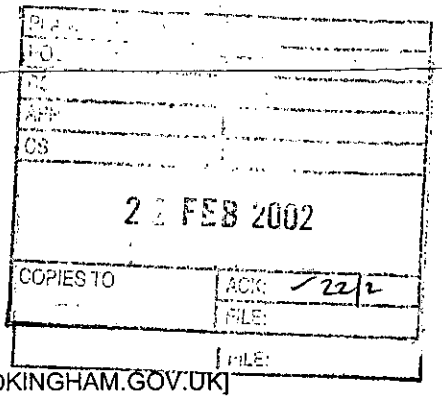
Yours faithfully,



Richard Allan

Ph: 0118 9698872

Carol Hurst



From: Ian Jordan
Sent: 21 February 2002 20:37
To: Carol Hurst
Subject: FW: Comments on Planning Applications

From: WebComments@wokingham.gov.uk[SMTP:WEBCOMMENTS@WOKINGHAM.GOV.UK]
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2002 8:41:26 PM
To: ian.jordan@wokingham.gov.uk
Subject: Comments on Planning Applications
Auto forwarded by a Rule

****

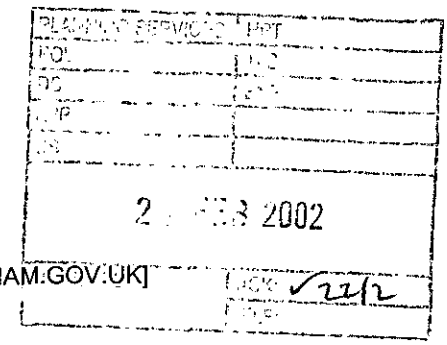
NatureofEmail: Object
ApplicationNumber: TL/2002/5798
Correspondent_FullName: Mr & Mrs Cox
Correspondent_StreetAddress: 12 Worrall Way
Correspondent_Address2: Lower Earley
Correspondent_Town: Reading
Correspondent_County: Berkshire
Correspondent_PostCode: RG6 4AW
Correspondent_Telephone: 0118 9750681
Correspondent_Email: Michael.cox10@ntlworld.com

Comments:

We strongly object to the proposed erection of the telecoms tower in Western Ave, Woodley as my daughter attends St Dominic Savio school and we fear that her health and that of the other children may be adversely affected by this tower. In many cases where towers have been erected there have been clusters of cancer and other serious illnesses and we feel it is irresponsible of Orange (and of the council should the planning be passed) to even contemplate erecting the tower so close to a school. You may want to look at www.mastaction.org on the internet for further information regarding the health issues surrounding these towers. If the plans were to be passed we would have to seriously consider removing our daughter from the school which would cause us loss of amenity.

Carol Hurst

From: Ian Jordan
Sent: 21 February 2002 21:45
To: Carol Hurst
Subject: FW: Comments on Planning Applications



From: WebComments@wokingham.gov.uk[SMTP:WEBCOMMENTS@WOKINGHAM.GOV.UK]
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2002 9:49:54 PM
To: ian.jordan@wokingham.gov.uk
Subject: Comments on Planning Applications
Auto forwarded by a Rule

****

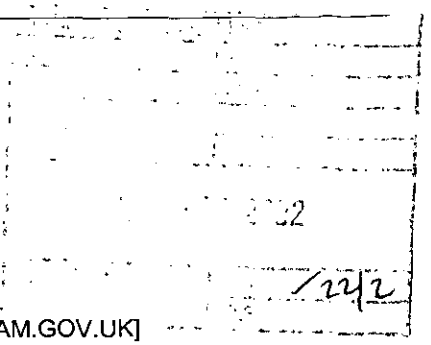
NatureofEmail: Object
ApplicationNumber: TL20025798
Correspondent_FullName: MR M GRAY
Correspondent_StreetAddress: 7, CORBETT GARDENS,
Correspondent_Address2: WOODLEY,
Correspondent_Town: READING,
Correspondent_County: BERSHIRE,
Correspondent_PostCode: RG5 4JY
Correspondent_Telephone:
Correspondent_Email:

Comments:

I OBJECT TO THE SITING OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS MAST SO CLOSE TO A PRIMARY SCHOOL AND PUBLIC PARK USED BY MANY LOCAL CHILDREN. FEAR OF THE POSSIBLE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF SUCH A MAST WOULD LEAD TO A LOSS OF AMENITY.

Carol Hurst

From: Ian Jordan
Sent: 22 February 2002 07:57
To: *Carol Hurst*
Subject: FW: Comments on Planning Applications



From: WebComments@wokingham.gov.uk[SMTP:WEBCOMMENTS@WOKINGHAM.GOV.UK]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2002 8:01:47 AM
To: ian.jordan@wokingham.gov.uk
Subject: Comments on Planning Applications
Auto forwarded by a Rule

****

NatureofEmail: Object
ApplicationNumber: tL/2002/5798
Correspondent_FullName: M.M. & B.L. Brennan
Correspondent_StreetAddress: 462 Reading Road
Correspondent_Address2: Winnersh
Correspondent_Town: Wokingham
Correspondent_County: Berks
Correspondent_PostCode: RG41 5ET
Correspondent_Telephone:
Correspondent_Email:

Comments:

We object to the erection of the mast due to its close proximity to St Dominic Savio School and its potential health hazard

Carol Hurst

From: Ian Jordan
Sent: 22 February 2002 07:58
To: Carol Hurst
Subject: FW: Comments on Planning Applications

From: WebComments@wokingham.gov.uk[SMTP:WEBCOMMENTS@WOKINGHAM.GOV.UK]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2002 8:02:22 AM
To: ian.jordan@wokingham.gov.uk
Subject: Comments on Planning Applications
Auto forwarded by a Rule

****

NatureofEmail: Object
ApplicationNumber: tL/2002/5798
Correspondent_FullName: M.M. & B.L. Brennan
Correspondent_StreetAddress: 462 Reading Road
Correspondent_Address2: Winnersh
Correspondent_Town: Wokingham
Correspondent_County: Berks
Correspondent_PostCode: RG41 5ET
Correspondent_Telephone:
Correspondent_Email:

Comments:

We object to the erection of the mast due to its close proximity to St Dominic Savio School and its potential health hazard

B MacBeth
4 Radcot Close
Woodley Berks
RG5 3BG
0734 698361

18.2.02

Ms Heidi Lynch
Wokingham Council Planning Services
PO Box 157
Wokingham RG10 1WR

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
DO	TLS
DC	ENF
APP	
CS	
22 FEB 2002	
COPIES TO	ACK: 22/2
	FILE:

Dear Ms Lynch.

I am writing to express my extreme disquiet at the proposed 'Orange' telephone mast at the junction of Western Avenue and Radcot Close. Since this mast would be less than one hundred yards from my front door I have a keen vested interest in the matter.

My objections are as follows:-

(1). The site is totally unsuitable for purely technical reasons. The steeply rising ground behind it would cause loss of half the signal. Such masts are usually placed on high ground for that very reason. The railway embankment near the A4 would be far more appropriate and would not be near peoples homes.

② The mast would be an eyesore and cause loss of amenity to local residents.

③ The adjacent pavement is very narrow, half that shown on the plans. The proposed 'cabinet' would block the foot-way and cause pedestrians to have to step into the roadway. This is particularly dangerous in view of its nearness to a primary school.

④ The proposed site is actually private land, and does not belong to the Council. The owner of the land has already stated that he will, under no circumstances, give his permission

⑤ Such radio masts are a known hazard to health, and for this reason are banned in residential areas in most European countries.

⑥ In view of the above the decision to place the mast so near to St Dominic's School is totally unacceptable. Should there be a cases of leukaemia 'cluster' among these children in the future the Council would be both legally and morally responsible

(7) There is a danger that, once permitted, the mast might be extended or shared by other 'phone companies. This would be difficult to counteract or remedy once initial permission had been given.

(8) 'Orange' phone reception in Woodley is at present perfectly adequate and the mast is not really needed anyway.

(9) Such mast can be very noisy in windy conditions. This is a peaceful residential area and such noise would be most intrusive and render our lives unbearable.

(10) These masts can and do interfere with television and radio reception. They should ideally be sited in non-residential areas.

(11) The presence of such a mast would make our homes almost impossible to sell. Who would want to buy a home next to such an ugly and dangerous eyesore! This point may be seen as 'nimbyism', but the fact remains that for most people their home is their biggest single investment, and a very large

part of their life savings. The loss of a large part of the value can cause real financial distress to many people. This is all the worse because the proposed structure is quite unnecessary anyway.

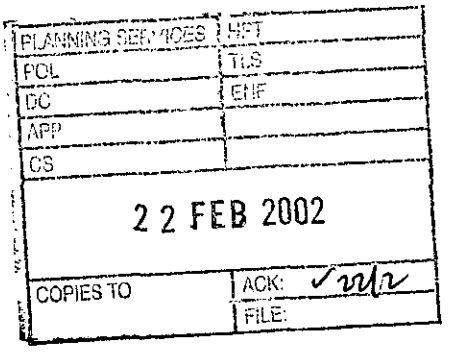
In conclusion I would urge the Council to reject this structure out of hand. Of all the reasons given above, the very real danger of radiation to the local children and those attending the nearby school is the most compelling.

yours faithfully

B Macbeth

MRS B MACBETH

Ref: TL/2002/5798



Mr & Mrs Barratt
5 Keane Close
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 4LG

18.02.2002

Dear Ms. Lynch,

We totally disagree with the proposal of erecting an Orange mobile phone mast in Western Avenue. Although we do not live on this road, we do live fairly close and we are concerned with the health risks, especially as there is a school within 300metres of the proposed site, and we also have two young children ourselves.

We are also concerned with the possibility of telephone and television interference as this will affect us and once the mast is erected it will be very difficult to have it removed without a lot problems.

We do not understand why the mast should be erected in this location, when there are probably a lot of other more suitable places (ie: along side the A4) away from properties and residential areas.

We feel very strongly that you should take into consideration all of the letters that you receive from local people and listen to their views, people have the right not to have such monstrosities like this on their doorstep.

Yours sincerely,

Peter & Cathy Barratt.

c.c. Teresa May MP,
Peter Skinner MEP
Emma Nicholson MEP
Roy Perry MEP
Terry Dredge, Councillor

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
POL	TJS
DC	EMF
APP	
CS	
22 FEB 2002	
COPIES TO	ACK: ✓ 22/2
	FILE:

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

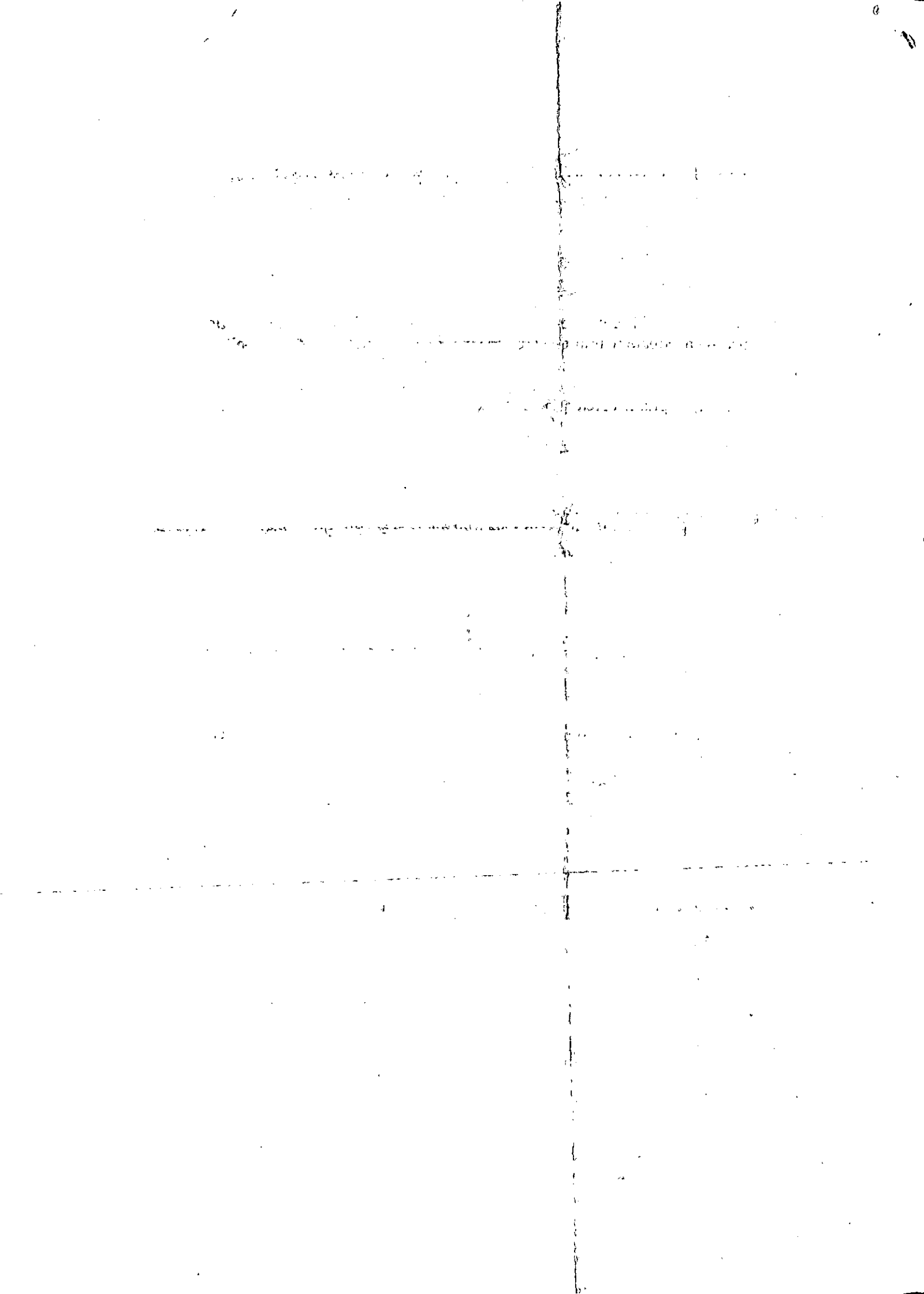
1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.



6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach." [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely:

Name: APSweeney (MS)

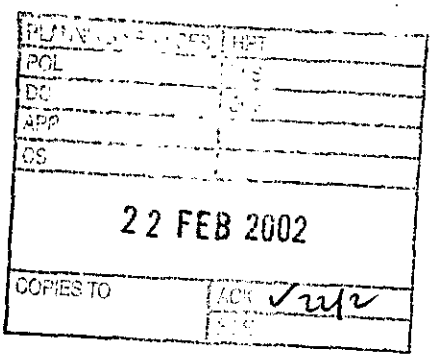
Address: 58 Radcot close
Woodley
Reading
Berks. RG5 3BG

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

P.S.
I think that it is disgraceful that W.D.C is prepared to rent the land for this ~~vast~~ monstrous installation

APSweeney (MS)

37 Warren Road
Woodley
READING
RG5 3AR
Telephone and Fax 0118-9692197



Heidi Lynch
PO Box 157,
Shute End,
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

18 February 2002

Ref TL/2002/5798

Dear Ms Lynch,

Mobile Phone Mast proposed for Western Avenue

I wish to protest in the strongest possible terms concerning the above planning submission.

I find it incomprehensible that a company should consider to install such a mast in a quiet residential area. It would be totally out of character with the area, and would represent considerable loss of visual amenity, quite apart from unknown risks associated with electromagnetic fields and radiation.

I strongly hope that you will decide to reject this application.

Yours sincerely,

John Farrington

37 Warren Road
Woodley
READING
RG5 3AR
Telephone and Fax 0118-9692197
E-mail address: joanna_farrington@yahoo.co.uk

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22 FEB 2002	
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	FILE

18/2/02

Heidi Lynch,
P.O.Box 157,
Shute End,
WOKINGHAM
RG40 1WR

Ref TL/2002/5798

Dear Ms Lynch,

I am writing to say how dismayed I am to hear that the Orange telecommunications company has applied to build a 40 foot mast in the small piece of land on Western Avenue, Woodley, opposite Radcot Close.

This seems to be such an incongruous suggestion that it is hard to believe that it is true. A mast of this nature would be very unsightly and appear very out of place in a tree-lined residential road such as Western Avenue when there are other locations nearby where it would not be so obtrusive, such as at the edge of Woodford Park, at the top of Shepherd's Hill, or on the railway embankment where there are already some industrial buildings or where it can be screened effectively.

I should have thought that the close proximity of St Dominic Savio School was also a consideration as these masts have not been proven to have no effect on the health of children.

Please do not allow such an ugly edifice to be erected on what is a very pleasant residential street. It would spoil the area completely.

Yours sincerely,

Joanna E. Farrington

27 Vestry Road
Wooburn
READING
RG1 7LS

Tel: 0118 [illegible]

[illegible]

Head of Post
P O Box [illegible]
Darnie Bay
Yorkshire
West [illegible]

1

Dear Ms Lawson

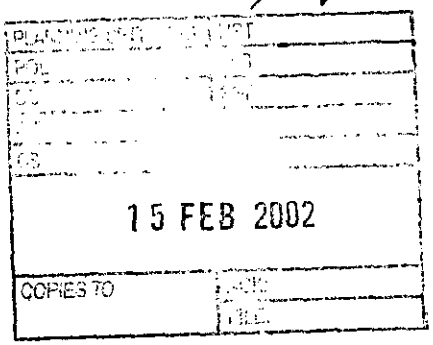
[illegible]

Yours sincerely

Joanna E Farnham

Mr & Mrs MD Breach
63 Western Avenue
WOODLEY
Berks RG5 3BL

11 February 2002



Wokingham District Council
Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham RG40 1WR

Ref. Application TL/2002/5798 - Erection of Telecommunication Column

Dear Ms Lynch

We have received and read the above application and would like you to note our**opposition to the erection of the above telecommunication mast**. We consider Western Avenue to be an unsuitable site for the following reasons.

There is still considerable controversy about the safety of these masts regarding the health of people who live in close proximity. Can you guarantee that these masts are safe and that there will be no health risks to the people who live in this area?

Western Avenue and the surrounding roads are highly populated. There is also a church and a school in Western Avenue.

Due to the height it will be very unsightly in a residential road, and the construction itself must be considered a danger to the local children. Also, there is always the possibility of further expansion on the mast, should the initial mast be granted approval.

Can you guarantee that there will be no interference with the signal for television and other telecommunication equipment?

Western Avenue, which is one of the oldest roads in Woodley, is a very desirable residential area in Woodley, and many people have worked very hard to be able to have the opportunity to live here. The application if it were approved would remove this factorand could cause people to consider moving away. It also will make it very much more difficult to sell properties.

We would like you to seriously consider that there must be far more suitable locations for the positioning of this mast, that do not affect the local residents and their homes. These masts should be sited in either open land or industrial areas where they cause the least danger and controversy.

Please evaluate very carefully these points and only consider approving this application if you and all the Council Members would also be prepared to live within 200 meters of a telecommunications mast, and could guarantee the publics' health and safety now and the foreseeable future. Remember, you are all working on behalf of the residents in Wokingham DC and your decisions affect their environment and life.

Yours sincerely

M.D. Breach

G.S. Breach

Mr MD & Mrs GS BREACH

cc · Mr · T. Dredge, Councillor

15 FEB 2002
COPIES TO
ACTION
FILE:

Mr. Paul Richard Clark
51 Lunds Farm Road
Woodley
Reading, Berks
RG5 4PZ

F.A.O. Ms Heidi Lynch
Wokingham Planning Control Officer

12 February 2002

Dear Ms Lynch,

As a resident of Woodley I am writing to register my protest to the proposed telecommunication mast, application number TL/2002/5798 – situated at the Junction of Radcot Close and Western Avenue.

I am extremely disappointed and upset at Wokingham unitary authority and Orange PCSL's intentions to convert this proposed site into a potential health and safety risk to the residents affected locally. A large number of small school children that attend the St Dominic's primary school within Western Avenue, which is less than 200 metres from the proposed site, will also be put at risk.

The council have a responsibility to the community to represent our best interests, clearly the lure of a fast buck has coloured the council's judgment here. Before such a mast is erected proper research into the possible threat of radiation emissions should be conducted and published. I also feel that an 11.1 high mtr mast is an eye sore and along with its potential health risks will represent a decrease in the value of the affected residents homes of which my parents are residents.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this action and reject this application - it's the wrong site for this potential health hazard that will destroy the appearance of the local environment and put our residents and children at risk.

THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE WORKING FOR THE PEOPLE NOT THE CORPARATES!

Yours Sincerely

Mr. Paul Clark

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
POL	TLS
DC	ENF
CS	
19 FEB 2002	
COPIES TO	ACK: 21/2
	FILE:

87 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3BL.

19th of February 2002

Wokingham Unitary
Environmental Services Department
Planning Services
P.O.Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire
RG40 1WR

Dear Ms Lynch,

Application Number: TL/2002/5798

Site Address: Land at Junction of Radcot Close &, Western Avenue, Woodley, Reading.

Proposal: Proposed erection of 11.8m high freestanding telecommunications column with 1 Omni directional antenna

After receiving your letter describing the proposal of the telecommunications mast I thought it important that I express the opinions of the younger generation. Along with many other teenagers down Western Avenue I can not see the benefits of the proposed column.

I am sure you have received many letters expressing their worries about the safety issues and I think this is a very important point. Is the proposed place really a good idea with St Domonics School so close? I know that there is no substantial evidence to prove that telecommunications masts give off radiation but I am still extremely worried about this issue. The fact is radiation causes cancers and if the telecommunication masts are proven to give off harmful radiation rays then the young pupils at St Domonics are very likely to suffer. Their skulls, like mine are not fully developed and this means that even small amounts of radiation can damage the sensitive brain tissue. The adults along this road are at less of a danger because their skulls are fully developed and a lot thicker but many young people including myself could be in real danger!

I am a very keen mobile phone user but experience no problems with signals and have no need for an improved signal. My father who is on the Orange network always has a strong signal. The Orange Company perceived that this area needs a mast to improve the signals, is this entirely true? Would the people in this area want better signals for the sake of their good health?

0118 927 2525
19-FEB-02 20:18 STARTING TWOGETHER 0118 927 2525 PAGE: 1

The erection of the mast would cause an awful eye saw in this pleasant area and if the mast were erected would this not encourage other rival companies to build their own masts to compete. Also if the land is rented to Orange then they could subcontract the land and allow other mast to be built without seeking further planning permission. This would add insult to injury as our beautiful area would not only be damaged but also destroyed. Also if a household was to ask permission from the council to build an extension out of metal at the front of their house it would be rejected because it is not in keeping with the area - but a mast would be?

I am also dubious why the column is to be built at the junction of Radcot Close. Have the council proposed other areas or have Orange even looked into other areas to build the mast? Why not build the mast in Woodford Park next to the town council offices? Is the mast being built here because the council will make some money? If the council are making money what will it go towards?

I would like the proposal of the telecommunications mast rejected to protect the young society growing up in this area and to keep our Avenue the way it is. Before the decision is made consider the lives of the youths along this road. Twenty years ago the authorities said that electrical pylons would not cause leukaemia, it has now been proven they do. Is history repeating its self?

Yours Sincerely

J. J. Dewsbury

Jonathan Dewsbury (Age 15)

19-FEB-02 20:19 STARTING TOGETHER 0118 927 2525 PAGE: 2
0118 927 2525

Rec'd 22/2

Parklands
Western Ave
Woodley
Reading RG5 3BH.

19/02/02.

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach. " [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: M Brook,

Name:

Address: PARK FIELD
WESTERN AVE
WOOLEY
ROAD WO
RG5 3BH

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

Pack 22/2

103 Western Avenue
WOODLEY
Berkshire
RG5 3 BL

Tel 0118 969 2344

17 February 2002

HEIDI LYNCH
PO BOX 157
SHUTE END
WOKINGHAM RG40 1WR

Dear Madam

40ft Mobile Phone Mast Proposed Western Avenue

As a long term resident of Western Avenue I wish to voice my strong objections to the above proposed installation, on the following grounds:

1 Western Avenue has always been a most attractive and highly sought after residential place in which to live, which is borne out by the higher than average cost of the houses in this road. This proposed installation will totally destroy the visual aspect of the avenue, and will immediately devalue our properties which were all purchased at higher sums than we would have paid for the same properties in a less sought after location. This installation will cost every home owner thousands of pounds. Are we to be compensated?

2 There has been widespread concern in the national press over a long period of time on the health hazards these installations cause, especially to children. We have a school sited less than 300 metres from this proposed site. These children should not be exposed to such health risks.

For the above reasons we vehemently oppose this installation.

Yours faithfully

R & Prescott

M J Prescott

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DC
AP
CS
20 FEB 2002
FILE

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

PTO

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

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I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely:

Name: Clyde Vroome

Address: 8 GODSTOW CLOSE
WOODLEY
READING
BERKSHIRE RG5 4LE

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

68 Western Ave
Woodley
Berks
RG5 3BH.

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POL	TS
DC	CS
A/P	
CS	

20 FEB 2002

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Dear Madam

Re. Plan No. TL/2002/5798
40.ft Phone Mast Proposed
for Western ave.

I object very strongly to this plan. We choose to buy this family home because this is a lovely tree lined residential Road and the proposed site is totally unsuitable for all the same reason as all our neighbours have raised objections. It will not only be an eyesore, but also a possible danger

to all the families living nearby, the hundreds of parents and children attending St Domonics school who park and walk past the site on a daily basis + the people who worship at St John Bosco Church again in their hundreds.

Please pass on our objections to all concerned. to include the price of our properties being devalued.

Yours faithfully

Helen + Michael Mole

PLANNING SERVICES | HPT
PCL | TLS
DC | SHF
AJS |
CS |
20 FEB 2002
COPIES TO | ACK: 22/2
FILE

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

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I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: Helen Mole

Name: MRS H. MOLE

Address: 68. WESTERN AVE.
WOODLEY
RG5 3BH.

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

ack 22/2

The Vines
Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading RG5 3BH
Tel: 0118 969 6023

Ms Heidi Lynch
Wokingham Council Planning Services
PO Box 157
Wokingham,
RG 10 1 WR

February 18, 2002

Dear Ms Lynch,

Re: Application TL/2002/5798

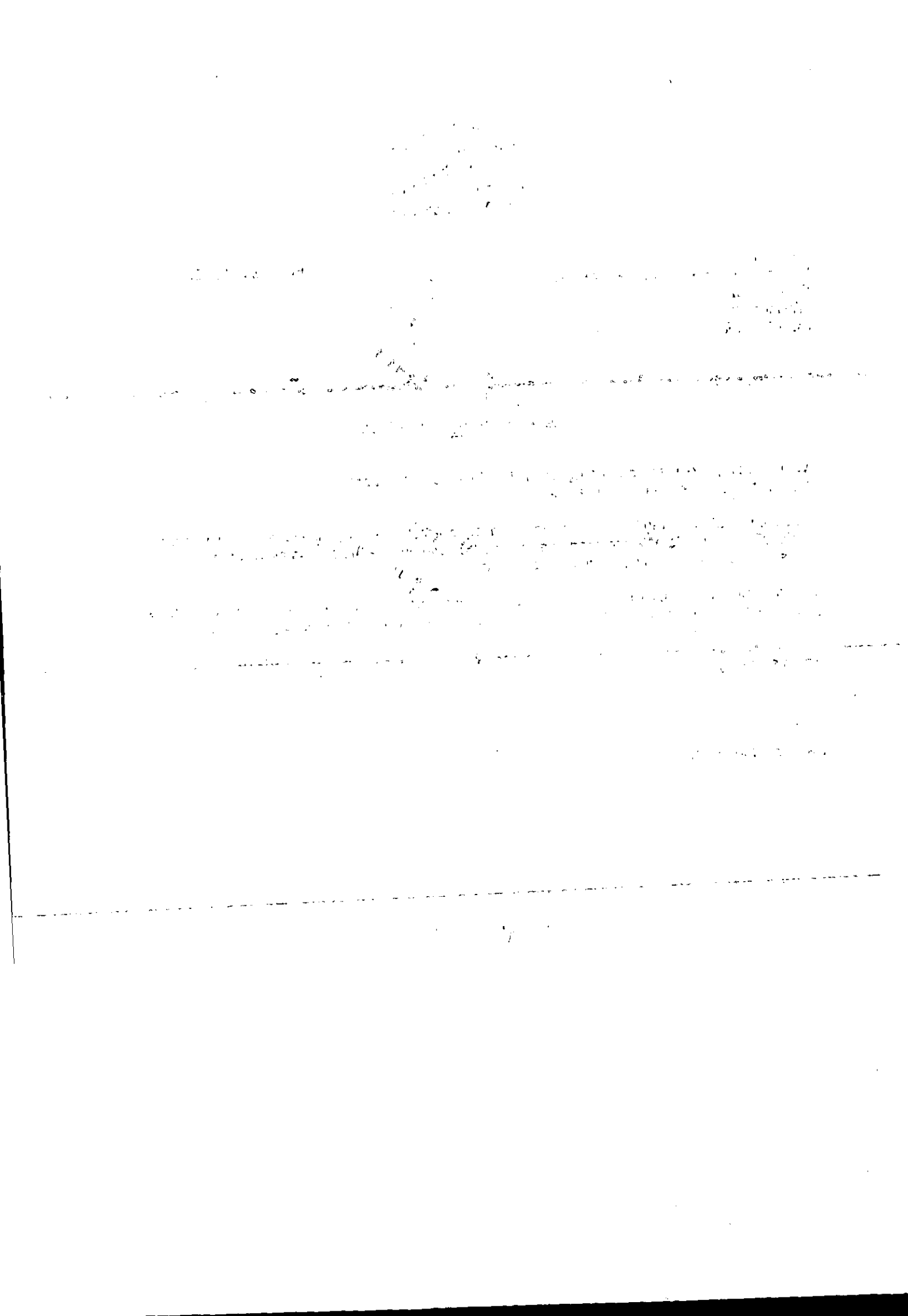
We are writing to express our strong opposition to the planning application to site a telecommunications mast in Western Avenue.

We believe that the siting the mast within a densely populated area and in close proximity to a school is totally inappropriate. We are concerned about the potential health hazards associated with emissions from such masts particularly to children.

We hope that the council will put the welfare of residents and particularly of children first and refuse to grant planning permission for this potentially dangerous and totally unnecessary eyesore.

Yours sincerely,

Pam and John Prior



adk 22/2

30, Western Avenue,
Woodley,
Reading,
Berkshire.
RG5 3BH
19/2/02

To whom it might concern

Re: 40ft Mobile phone mast proposal for Western Avenue, Woodley, Reading, Berkshire.

Dear Sir,

We live at **30 Western Avenue**, and my wife and I are amazed that such a monstrosity should be considered in a residential road. There are many of these masts in the area and the ones I have seen have been generally placed in areas away from houses. Mobile phone masts are ugly things and one in Western Avenue is going to have a detrimental effect on the area, not least for those who are so close that nobody is going to want to buy their house should they one day decide to sell. This is a very serious situation, and one that must be taken into account.

There is much discussion these days about the environmental impacts of these masts such as to our health, the health of our children (especially being so close to St. Dominics School), that of the local wildlife, interference of TV channels, clanking and humming in strong winds and general unsightliness. These factors too are serious issues, and ones that should not be ignored.

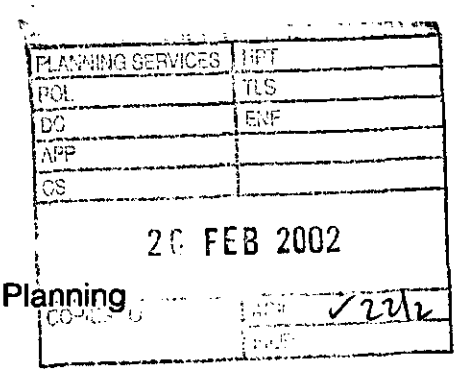
We feel particularly sorry for those houses that are immediately adjacent to the proposed site. Their owners must be horrified.

Surely there are locations well away from housing? Indeed are yet more of these things really are needed anyway? As far as I know, mobile phone reception is fine in the Woodley area!

Yours sincerely,

G.H.Martin and S.J.Martin

T2/2002/5798



105 Western Avenue
Woodley, Reading
RG 5 3BL

To Director of Planning
TL2002/5798

Re 40ft Mobile Phone Mast Proposed for Western Avenue

I strongly object to this proposal on the following grounds:

- It will be an ugly eyesore for everyone ,those living in the immediate vicinity and those just passing. Often these structures are added to by other phone companies and get even bigger and more uglier if that is possible. Western Avenue is an attractive tree lined road.
- The value of our properties would definitely depreciate and consequently we would certainly have to apply for a lower council tax.
- It may be a health hazard for us all in the area ,including the children at St Dominics Primary School nearby.[harmful emissions are still not disproved].
- General disruption caused by maintenance and noise in high winds.
- The site for the mast is totally unsuitable as the small area of shrubs and bushes is narrow and cannot be screened from the houses all around.
- Flora and fauna would obviously be adversely affected.

Please can you make these views known to members of the planning committee and any other people involved in this planning decision.

I would appreciate an acknowledgement of this letter. Once again I urge the Council to reject this proposal and find an alternative site which is not in the heart of a pleasant and attractive residential area.

Yours faithfully

Jane Whitwell

ACK 22/2

26 Radcot Close, Woodley, Reading, Berks RG5 3BG

Your Ref: TL/2002/5798

Monday, February 18, 2002

Heidi Lynch
Planning Services
Wokingham Unitary Authority
PO Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berks RG40 1WR

Ref: Proposed Erection of Mobile Mast in Western Avenue

Dear Ms Lynch

We were truly stunned and amazed to receive your letter concerning the proposed erection of a telecommunications column in Western Avenue. How Wokingham Unitary Authority can begin to contemplate siting such a mast in this location is quite beyond our understanding and shows a blatant disregard for the residents of this area.

As has been well publicised recently, from a health perspective, there is still much controversy over the safety of microwaves and radiation emitted by such devices. Documentary evidence suggests that these emissions can affect brain functions, cause memory loss, disrupt sleep and increase predisposition to certain cancers. Although the case against these masts is not completely proven, certainly neither are they proved to be completely safe. So in the light of the ongoing debate, how can Wokingham Unitary Authority seriously consider the erection of this mast in the middle of a residential area?

And additionally to the risk posed to local residents and their children, St Dominics School is less the 300 metres from the site. Children are particularly vulnerable, especially those below 12 years of age such as all the children attending this school. At this age, a child's nervous system is still developing and so is more susceptible to possible genetic damage which could affect neurological and academic development.

Indeed Woodley Town Council Leader Viv Samuel recently stated on the possible erection of the mast at Woodford Park: "Thousands of children use the park and we would have to check on the health risks before going ahead with putting it anywhere like that."

So if it's potentially unsafe to put the mast in the park where different people are coming and going, how can it possibly be deemed safe to put it in the middle of a residential area where the same people are in residence continually? Does Wokingham Unitary Authority have any regard at all for the health of Woodley children and the local residents, the very members of the community this authority is supposed to serve? This proposal seems to indicate not!

Can you honestly say that you would have no qualms to having such a mast erected in your own back garden Ms Lynch? I'm sure Orange would be interested to know as possibly a location in Wokingham would be equally interesting.

Apart from the possible health risks, and very much secondary to them, the mast will also create a completely unnecessary eyesore. There is no possibility that the mast could be disguised or screened in any acceptable way at this site. These sort of erections should be tucked away out of sight and again the proposed location shows the lack of consideration for local residents.

So the proposed location of this mast is totally unacceptable and we urge you to consider more carefully a possible site away from houses and schools.

Yours sincerely

Mike, Bev Kathryn & Philip Warden

ack 22/2

24 Warren Road
Woodley
Reading
RG5 3AR

17 February 2002

Your Ref: TL/2002/5798

Dear Mrs Lynch,

We would like to make our views known concerning the proposal to erect a mobile phone mast in Western Avenue.

Health

There have been considerable concerns expressed regarding the impact on health of those living near phone masts and a precautionary approach was urged by the Stewart Inquiry in 2000. There has been particular discussion about the health of children. In the area there are now an increasing number of families with young children who would be potentially at great risk as well as pupils at St.Dominic's School a short distance away. This follows recent concerns regarding the safety of children who regularly use mobile phone handsets, let alone those who live near one of the masts.

The centre of a built up residential area is not an appropriate site for one of these masts with the implications for the health of the local population.

Access

The proposed site of the mast is right on the verge of the pavement. Engineers needing to work on the mast would need to block the pavement and cause an obstruction in the road with any vehicles they use. This will cause a hazard for pedestrians, including children attending St.Domnic's School, as well as road traffic.

A mast should not be erected in an area likely to cause an obstruction to pedestrians and traffic.

TV Interference

Such a powerful device in the area is likely to cause interference to TV and radio reception. This would cause a situation that the residents could do nothing about any affects on their access to radio and TV once the mast is in place.

Visual Appearance

The height of the pylon means that is will be seen from a wide distance and will be a local eyesore. Again the mast is in the wrong location. It needs to be located away from residential areas.

Conclusion

We do not believe that the location for this proposed mast is appropriate. We believe that Wokingham District Council as a responsible local authority that cares for the welfare of its residents and will ensure that this phone mast is not sited in the centre of this residential area.

Yours sincerely,

N.G.Hollis (Mr.)

E.S.Lea (Mrs.)

ack. 22/2

Ms. Heidi Lynch
Wokingham Council Planning Services
PO Box 157
Wokingham
Berkshire
RG40 1WR

20 Radcot Close
Woodley
Reading
RG5 3BG

0118 969 8817 eve
0118 927 2512 day

Ref: TL/2002/5798

19 February 2002

Dear Ms Lynch,

Erection of Telecommunications column at junction of Radcot Close & Western Avenue

We oppose this development on the following grounds:

1. Possible Health Risks
Although emissions from the mast are within ICNIRP limits, there is insufficient evidence yet to be sure that emissions from these masts pose no long-term health risks.

2. Proximity to St. Dominic Savio School
The school grounds are only 200m away and part will fall in the area of maximum intensity of the beam. Both our children attend this school – we are concerned at possible health risks of continual exposure at home and at school.

3. Proliferation of Masts in Woodley / Wokingham
On talking with two members of the Wokingham Planning Office, we were told that the authority looks at each case on its own merit. This will be the 8th mast to be erected by Orange in the Woodley area. If each of the mobile phone operators takes the same approach, we could end up with 30-40 such masts. Furthermore, it is possible that as demand for mobile services and additional bandwidth increases, more and more powerful masts may be required.
The government Planning Policy Guidance Note on Telecommunications, PPG8 (August 2001), states (para 8) that operators and planning authorities should consult annually about rollout plans.
We would suggest that the Planning Office should draw up a complete plan for current and proposed mast sites, to co-ordinate installations rather than adopting a "piecemeal" approach.

4. Government Guidelines
PPG8 also states
a) Prior consultation should be carried out with interested parties (paras 9 and 10), in particular, schools (para 11). But the opinion of St. Dominic Savio School was not sought before submission of the proposal.

b) Opportunities for mast-sharing should be considered (PPG8 paras 19-23). There is no evidence that Orange has fulfilled this obligation. The Planning Office should require details of the case for and against mast-sharing in each application.

5. Alternative Sites

We suggest that the mast might be better located further North or Northwest, towards the railway line, for example in the potential new development at The Garden Cottage, Warren Road (planning application O/2001/5268). Impact would then be on new properties, and potential purchasers would be able to take this into account beforehand, rather than the proximity of the mast being imposed on existing householders.

This option would maintain Orange's objective of better coverage for North Woodley, but be further away from the main density of housing, higher and further away from the school.

We are sure you will agree that, whatever view is taken on the health risks, and irrespective of suitability of alternative sites, the procedural issues described in points 3 and 4 above mean that this application must not be approved.

Yours sincerely,

P A Jackson Carol Jackson

Peter and Carol Jackson

cc. Mr. Terry Dredge, Woodley Town Council
Mrs. Teresa May, MP

PLANNING SERVICES
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GS
20 FEB 2002
COPIES TO

48 Radcot Close
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3BG
15th February 2002

Planning and Development Department
Wokingham District Council

FAO Heidi Lynch, Planning Case Officer

Dear Ms Lynch,

Re: Application Number: TL/2002/5798 – Proposed erection of a 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna.

We are writing to object to the above proposal. Please find detailed below our observations and objections.

1. There has been no site notice as required in PPG8.
2. The letter we received from Wokingham District Council informed us we had 21 days to comment – why are we being denied the full 56 day period? (Ref Stewart Report for the IEGMP May 2000)
3. No pre-application discussions were held with local residents, as set out in PPG8 Para 9.
4. When we moved here 18 months ago we were given the impression that the North Woodley area is a quality urban area – many councils have policies to protect such urban areas from detrimental developments. Does Wokingham District Council have such a policy?
5. The Government has attached considerable importance to mast sharing or sharing an existing site in the area, as an alternative to developing new mast sites (PPG8, Para.19 to 23). Has mast sharing been considered in this instance? Additionally, should the erection of this mast go ahead, have we any protection against this mast being shared?
6. We object on the grounds that the proposal represents a loss of amenity to the people of Woodley, and in particular the residents of Radcot Close anad Western Avenue. The local plan for Wokingham District Council should include policies on the siting and external appearance, including any location and landscaping requirements, designed to minimise the impact of such apparatus on an amenity as stated in PPG 8, Para. 40 of the Appendix. Having studied the plans at the library, there appears to be no allowance for land to landscape the mast as viewed from the Radcot Close junction.The proximity of the mast to residential property will be invasive and intrusive, and thereby affect the amenity of the area. As we are sure you are aware, PPG 8 makes it clear that a rejection of permitted development permission is acceptable should the LPA conclude that it would have an adverse effect on the amenity of the area, and Annex 1 para.13 lists a number of factors involving siting, one of which is " the site in relation to residential property."
7. We object on the grounds that this technology has yet to be proved safe. We have strong concerns regarding the long term health effects of telecommunication

18 Radnor Close
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3JG
15th February 2002

Planning and Development Department
Wokingham District Council

FAO Mrs Lynda Peach, Planning Case Officer

Dear Mrs Lynda

Re: Application Number 3/02/0159/TA – Proposal for erection of 15.0m high lattice steel mast with 3 no. antennae and 1 no. dish antennae.

We are writing to object to the above proposal. Please find details below our observations and objections.

1. There has been no site notice as required in TP(GD).
2. The letter we received from Wokingham District Council informed us we had 21 days to comment - we are not being given the full 56 day period (Ref Statement Report for the TP(GD)M(P) Act 2000)
3. No pre-application discussions were held with local residents, as set out in PPG8 Para 9.
4. When we moved here 18 months ago we were given the impression that the Woodley area is a country urban area. Many councils have policies to protect such urban areas from detrimental development. Does Wokingham District Council have such a policy?
5. The Government has attached considerable importance to mast sharing or sharing an existing site in the area, as an alternative to developing new mast sites (PPG8 Para. 19 to 23). Has mast sharing been considered in this instance? Additionally, should the erection of this mast go ahead, have any provisions against this mast being erected?
6. We object on the grounds that the proposal represents a loss of amenity to the people of Woodley, and in particular the residents of Radnor Close and Wessex Avenue. The local plan for Wokingham District Council should include policies on the siting and external appearance, including any location and landscaping requirements, designed to minimise the impact of such apparatus on an amenity as stated in PPG 8, Para. 10 of the Appendix. Having studied the plans at the library these appears to be no allowance for land to induce to the mast as viewed from the Radnor Close junction. The mast is within of the most residential property will be invasive and intrusive and thereby affect the amenity of the area. As we are sure you are aware, PPG 8 mad us it clear that a rejection of permitted development permission is acceptable should the LPA conclude that it would have an adverse effect on the environment, or the area, and Annex 1 para 13 lists a number of factors involving siting, one of which is "the site in relation to residential property."
7. We object on the grounds that this technology may yet to be proved safe. We have strong concerns regarding the long term health effects of telecommunication

masts, and given that our house is located within the beam of maximum intensity and that we have three children, all aged under 8, we are naturally fearful.

8. We understand that the "precautionary principle" recommended by the government commissioned Stewart Report for the IEGMP (May 2000), calls for a cessation in the erection of masts close to people until more is known about the possible health effects of masts. This recommendation seems to have been ignored in this instance – you couldn't get any closer to residential homes, and there is primary school nearby. Many European countries have called for a minimum distance of 500m between telecommunication masts and residential homes and schools. As our house lies approximately 100m from the planned site for the mast in question, surely you can understand our concerns.
9. Have alternative sites, away from residential areas been considered? Are there not opportunities beside major roads, within country parks eg Dinton Pastures, or other parkland, eg Ashenbury Park, Woodford Park.
   We were very interested to read an article in The Chronicle, dated 14th February on Page 11, where Viv Samuel, the leader of the Woodley Town Council says; "The Council are going to invite someone from Orange and someone from Wokingham District Council to come along to the next planning meeting to see if there's any place we can put this. **It would have to be up to the public to decide,** but putting a mast on the council land is something we will have to look at."
   "It is difficult when Woodford Park belongs to everybody. Thousands of children use the park and we would have to check on the health risks before going ahead with putting it anywhere like that."
   If there is a possible risk to children playing in the park, then what about our children sleeping in there beds for 12 hours every night, not to mention the time they spend at home playing?
10. We object to the proposal as we are concerned it may affect the quality of our life, and the life of our neighbours. Will there be detrimental effects to our television reception, use of cordless telephones, computers ? Will the behaviour and patterns of local wildlife, eg birds, which seem particularly prevalent in the area, be affected? Will house prices be affected?

Yours sincerely

A L Masters

Mr & Mrs A L Masters

Yours sincerely

Mr & Mrs A L Masters

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002).

3. A number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach." [6.39]

Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a *precautionary approach*. I request that Wokingham Council dismiss this application and inform Orange that it will adopt the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992) with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas.

Yours Sincerely: J.E.Thelwall Woodley 19/02/02

Name: Mr - J. E. Thelwall

Address: 2 Radcot Close
Woodley
RG5 3BG

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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	FILE:

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach." [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: L A W Thelwall 19th Feb 2002

Name: Dr L A W Thelwall

Address: 2 Radcot Close
Woodley
RG5 3BG

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

Mr and Mrs Wright

76 Western Avenue
Woodley
READING
Berkshire
RG5 3EH

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18 February 2002

Heidi Lynch
PO BOX 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks RG40 1WR

Dear Miss Lynch

RE: APPLICATION NO. TL/2002/5798 PROPOSED ERECTION OF 11.8m HIGH FREE STANDING TELECOMMUNICATIONS COLUMN WITH 1 OMNI DIRECTIONAL ANTENNA – LAND AT JUNCTION OF RADCOT CLOSE AND WESTERN AVENUE.

We are writing to register our objections to the above application which if approved will be within 50 yards of our property.

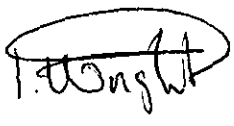
Our objections to the above proposal are as follows:

1. **VISUAL AMENITY:** We believe that a mast of this nature will be harmful to the visual amenity of the area as it will be close to 40' high. Western Avenue is a tree-lined road and such a proposal will be out of keeping with the local environment and will be an eyesore. In addition it would appear that no amount of landscaping would obscure this ugly monstrosity.
2. **NOISE POLLUTION:** These columns are known to whistle in high winds and the cabinets are also known to emit a buzzing noise which would be unacceptable in this residential neighbourhood.
3. **HIGHWAYS:** These masts require routine maintenance and are also known to breakdown on occasion. Its position on a busy through road and directly opposite a junction could cause dangers on the highway and possibly the footpath. Can the council ensure that Orange would not obstruct either the highway or the footpath when carrying out maintenance? It should also be noted that the ownership of the land in question is in dispute.
4. **SAFETY:** It is likely that given its location in a residential area children will attempt to climb the mast or the cabinet. Surely the best location for such a mast would be in a more remote and inaccessible position away from a residential area.

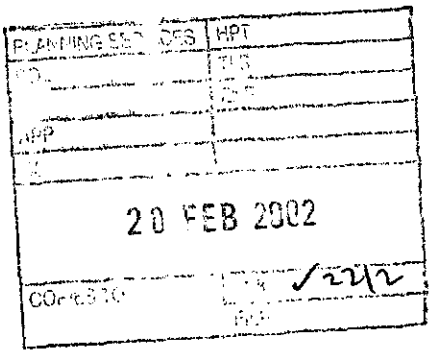
5. **RADIATION:** It would appear that no exclusion zone has been considered in accordance with the Stewart Report for the IEGMP (MAY2000) which called for a prohibition on masts of this nature close to people until more is known about the potential health risks. We are concerned that this principle has not been considered at all as Western Avenue is residential area with a school within 300 metres of the proposed mast.
6. **ENVIRONMENT:** The mast could possibly cause damage to the local wildlife and could also significantly interfere with radio, television and electrical equipment and we would ask whether the applicant has demonstrated in any way that this will not be the case. Additionally have other agencies such as Environmental Health and the Radiocommunication Agency been consulted? We also understand that Government guidance states that wherever possible sites for masts such as this should be shared and we would like to know whether this has in fact been at all considered? It would appear that there are a number of masts elsewhere where sites could be shared.
7. **CONSULTATION:** We are concerned that insufficient time has been allowed for consultation in this important matter and would question whether the time allowed is in accordance with the regulations.
8. **NUISANCE:** We understand that much of the maintenance is carried out at night with bright arc lights which would obviously cause a disturbance to families within the area and this should be considered unacceptable. In ordinary planning terms such a business use would not be permitted in a residential area.

We believe that for the above reasons, Wokingham District Council should refuse this application. Apart from the above issues, the question of health needs to be addressed as it would appear that more and more evidence is coming to light which suggests that these masts can cause cancer and damage to the brain particularly in young children. As this is a residential area consisting of mainly families and as there is a school nearby, it is clear that the risk of health damage would be high. I have a young family with 4 children under the age of 13 and this matter is of grave concern to my wife and I. We believe that the Council should commission their own independent research into the potential health hazards caused by these masts in a similar manner to Redbridge Borough Council before they permit any further masts in residential areas within the District.

Yours sincerely



Ian and Helen Wright



9 Warren Road
Woodley
Berkshire
RG5 3AP

18th February 2002

Heidi Lynch
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

FAO: Heidi Lynch

Dear Ms Lynch,

Re: Application For Development of Proposed Phone Mast

Permitted Development Ref No: TL/2002/5798

By Orange Communications Ltd.

Location of Proposed Mast Erection – Land at Radcot Close, Woodley

I am writing to object to the proposed application for the 40ft mobile phone mast planned for Radcot Close in Woodley. Below I have listed some of my objections and concerns and hope you will consider the view of myself and other local resident who live and have lived in this area for many years.

1. This technology **has not yet been proved as safe.** I (and the majority of my neighbours) have deep-seated concerns and worries regarding mobile masts and their perceived detrimental effect on health grounds. Current research on this matter has merely concentrated on the effects of **tissue heating only** from microwave emitting antenna. There is, however, a large body of scientific research that now challenges this view with regard to other possible symptoms such as increased cancer risk, sterility, effects on heart etc. There have also been reports of an increase in seizures amongst epileptic children and this is a particular concern with St. Dominic's School in such close proximity to the mast.

2. That the "precautionary principle" recommended in the Government commissioned **Stewart Report for the IEGMP (May 2000)**, which calls for a cessation in the erection of masts close to people until more was known about the possible health effects of masts, appears to have been ignored.

3. That with the expected future concerns on mobile 'phone mast safety being similar to those recently raised regarding overhead power lines and television broadcast antennae, **private property values will plummet** in areas where masts have been erected in or near to residential properties. It is interesting to note that US and other European countries stipulate a minimum exclusion zone of 500m from mast sites to the vulnerable. The Stewart Report also recommends such exclusion zones **Paras 1.44-1.48 Stewart Report.**

4. That the development will cause widespread physical interference and disruption to existing television and other telecommunication services due to the physical obstruction or reflection of the wanted signals. Local Authorities need to have taken into account that the potential for interference has been fully considered in the sitting and design of this development, as it would be impossible to correct this situation after the site becomes operational.

5. Emissions may destroy or at a minimum adversely effect local wildlife.

The effect on visual amenities, reports of TV, telecommunication and electrical equipment being disrupted, the health risks (especially near a junior school), effect on local wildlife and the effect on property value, I believe the site is inappropriate.

I look forward to your official response to the points raised above, please do not allow a lack of response on the Council's behalf to be responsible for this irresponsible development proceeding by default. I urge you to reject this application.

Yours faithfully

Mr Michele Di Gregorio

Affable Decorators

Domestic & Commercial - Interior & Exterior work

17.02.02

Dear Heidi Lynch

My wife and I are very concerned regarding the proposed instalation of the mobile phone mask in Weston Avenue Woodley. We have read in the newspapers on numerous occasions regarding the siteing of these masks in built up areas.

Could you or whoever santions the decision to go ahead with this project personally guarantee that my wife and I will not have our health affected by this instalation.

I also believe that this could affect my TV transmission, if so I think this is again totally irresponsible and inconsiderate.

Yours Sincerely,

R.J.G Deary.

8 TIVERTON CLOSE
WOODLEY
BERKS RG5 3BE

TEL: 0118 969 1434
FAX: 0118 969 1434
MOB: 07971 450065

PLANNING SERVICES
28 FEB 2002
ACK

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

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2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

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7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

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I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: Peter Gulliver Rita Gulliver

Name: PETER & RITA GULLIVER

Address: 1 WARREN ROAD
WOODLEY
RG5 3AP

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

Ref: TL/2002/5798

75 Baskensbourne Drive,
Woodley,
Reading.
RG5 4LJ.

15.2.02.

PLANNING SERVICES	HPT
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19 FEB 2002

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	FILE

Heidi Lynch,

I strongly ~~object~~ to the proposed erection of the Mobile Phone Mast in Western Avenue, Woodley. The following are my chief reasons for objection :—

(1) The proposed site is unsuitable and dangerous as this part of Western Ave. is heavily congested with parked cars during morning & afternoon school times.

(2) It is much too close to St. Dominic's school with the attendant health risks to the children.

(3) It is unfair to the residents of the adjacent property. They will suffer loss of amenity and financially in order that Orange can make their huge profits at their expense.

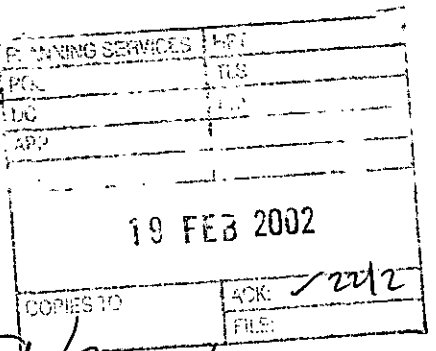
Yours sincerely,

F. Pemberton.

109 Western Avenue
Woodley Reading RG5 3BL

13 February 2002

Heidi Lynch
Development Control Officer
Wokingham District
P.O. Box 153 Wokingham



Dear Madam

Your Ref. TK/2002/5798

Telecommunications Mast

I strongly object to Orange's intentions to erect a telecommunications mast at the junction of Western Avenue and Radcot Close for the following reasons:-

(1) There would be an unknown hazard from electromagnetic fields and microwaves. This is a very worrying feature, especially when children are concerned, both those living in the area and those attending St John Bosco school. I am told there are no research results on the effect of such emanations which apply to periods longer than 5 years.

(2) A mast is quite unnecessary. Mobile phone reception in this area is adequate.

(3) Environmentally, such a mast would be a disaster. Visually, wind noise and the general apprehension caused would

be most upsetting to all residents and would lower the value of our properties.

I urge you to take this matter most seriously, and to use your influence to reject any plans that Orange have to erect a mast in Merton Avenue.

Yours sincerely

W A Andrews

Copy:
MRS Teresa May MP, House of Commons.
MR Terry Dredge, Councillor, Woodley

TL/2002/5798

RE: HEIDI LYNCH

TEL: 01189695882

55 ROCHESTER AVE
WOODLEY RG5 4NB

PLANN
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19 FEB 2002
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ACK: 22/2
FILE:

DEAR Ms LYNCH,

I AM ~~ABSOLUTELY~~ FURIOUS AND DISGUSTED THAT THE PRESENT COUNCIL SHOULD EVEN CONSIDER THE ERECTION OF AN ORANGE MOBILE PHONE MAST IN WESTERN AVE.

WHY DOES THIS HAVE TO BE IN A BUILT UP AREA? AND SO NEAR TO A SCHOOL. I CAN'T HELP WONDERING HOW THE PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS DEED WOULD FEEL IF THE MAST WAS INSTALLED OUTSIDE THEIR HOMES.

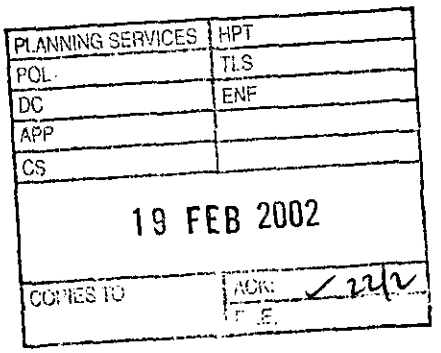
IT IS APPARENT THAT THE COUNCIL HAVE JUMPED ON A MONEY MAKING OPPORTUNITY WITHOUT ANY THOUGHT OF THE CONSEQUENCES TO THE RESIDENTS OF WESTERN AVE AND SURROUNDING AREAS.

June Cook
(MRS)

Mr R Niedzwiedzki
24 Radcot Close
Woodley
READING
RG5 3BG

Ms H Lynch
Development Control Officer
Wokingham District Council
Environmental Services Department
Planning Services
P.O. Box 157
Shute End
WOKINGHAM
Berkshire
RG40 1WR

15 February 2002



Dear Ms Lynch

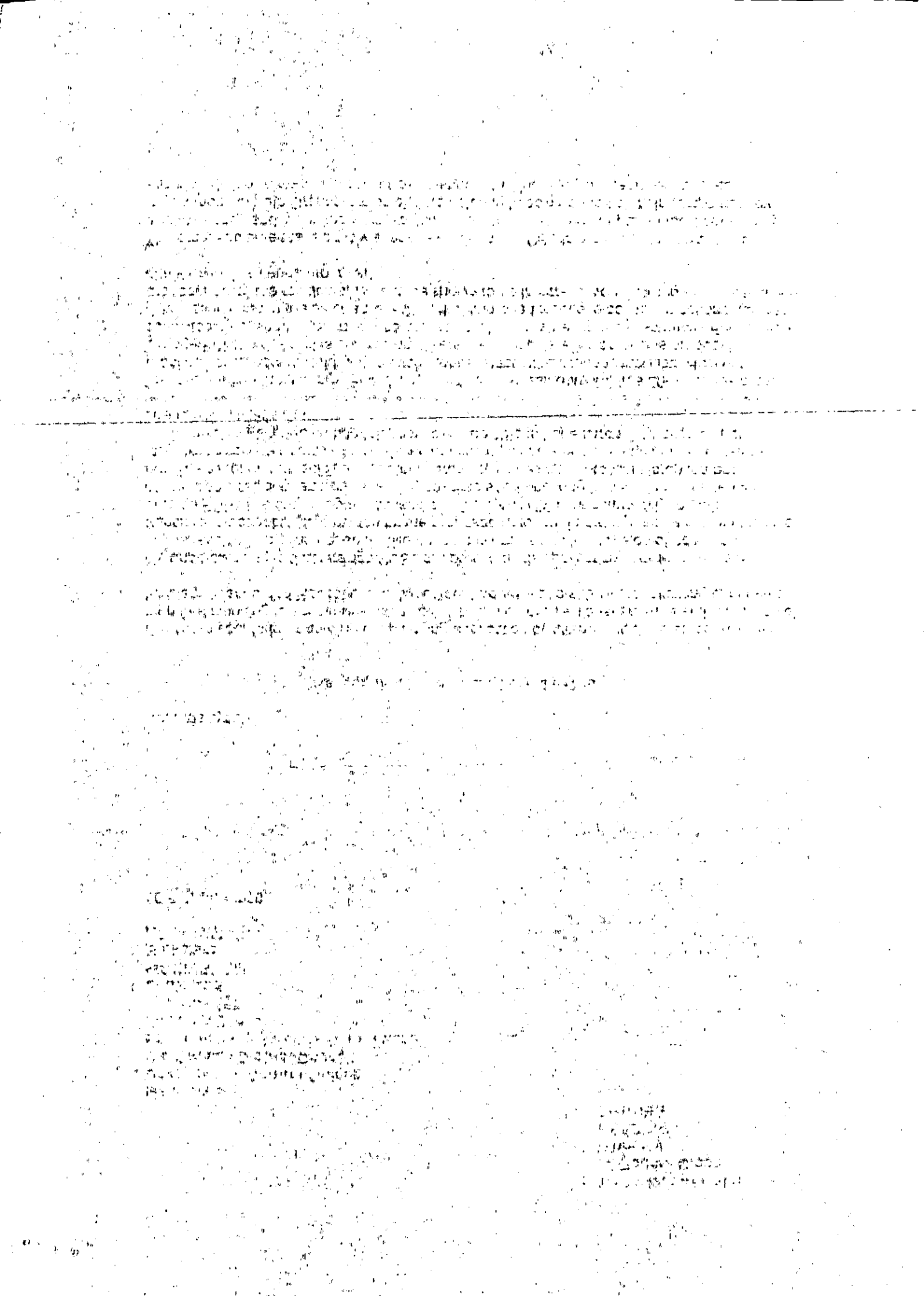
Re: Application Number TL/2002/5798

Further to your letter regarding the planning application by Orange PCSL to erect an 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with omni directional antenna at the junction of Western Avenue and Radcot Close, Woodley, I would like to submit the following comments.

My understanding is that Orange PCSL are pursuing this application in order to increase profits resulting from increased mobile phone customers due to provision of additional transmission capabilities provided by the proposed antenna. In order to achieve this objective Orange PCSL are proposing to use land and facilities within our community, creating considerable resident anxiety regarding possible short and long terms effects concerning health, environmental pollution, declining property values and potential disruption and interference of television, related telecommunications and electronic equipment. In return residents using Orange mobile telephones will be able to benefit from improved signal strength and availability.

The assumption that Orange PCSL have made is that residents within a 500m radius of the proposed antenna site require improved mobile telecommunications facilities. How did Orange PCSL arrive at this conclusion? Were the residents affected by this proposal consulted by Orange PCSL and if so are the results available for public scrutiny? Furthermore if the assumption made by Orange PCSL, that improved mobile telecommunications facilities are required by the residents, were to be shown to be incorrect, would Orange accept this and abandon their antenna proposal?

The proposed antenna is simply a means for Orange PCSL to maximise their profits at whatever cost, and whilst the proposal hides behind an assumed apparent local community requirement, in truth Orange are solely interested in keeping ahead of their competitors by ensuring their own market prominence irrespective of local requirements and wishes.

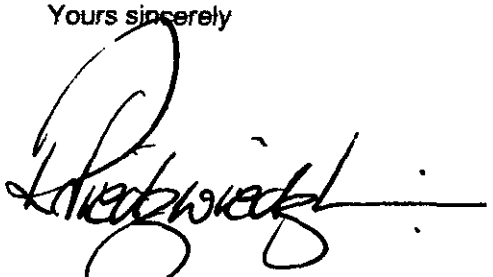


For my part I object to the Orange PCSL antenna proposal for the following reasons.

- **Potential health hazard**
- **Environmental and visual pollution**
- **Negative impact on property values**
- **Disruption of TV and other electronic equipment**

However, the Orange PCSL antenna proposed site should be rejected for the following reason. St. Dominics is a junior school situated within the maximum beam strength of the proposed antenna. Currently all available scientific data suggests that no ill effects should result from an antenna installation such as this. Nevertheless there are no guarantees and no one knows if these installations are 100% safe. Tragedies such as the Thalidomide cases are reminders of mans fallibility. Can we continue to take unnecessary risks? If the antenna must be erected then at the very least it must be erected well away from St. Dominics School and if no suitable site is available then in this instance planning permission must be refused.

Yours sincerely



R Niedzwiedzki

C.f.i. Teresa May MP
Terry Dredge Councilor

3) The mast during erection & maintenance will cause a dangerous obstruction as children & traffic try to pass workman & vehicles on an already dangerously congested road.

4) The environmental health laws protect us from "noxious emissions" which we feel the mast will emit in terms of electromagnetic fields which are proven to increase & speed up Leukaemia in children, radar gas, microwaves & non-ionising radiation.

Please put forward our objections to oppose the siting of the mast here on western Ave or anywhere within the vicinity of residential areas & schools. We strongly object to its siting here.

Christian Simpson

Angus Simpson

HEIDI LYNCH
WOKINGHAM DISTRICT
COUNCIL PLANNING DEPT.
P.O. BOX 157
Shute end
Wokingham
RG40 1WR.

PLANNING SERVICES | DPT
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DC | ENF
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CS
19 FEB 2002
COPIES TO | ACK: 22/2
FILE:

Mr Ian SIMPSON
'Tamarisk'
Western Ave
Woodley
Reading
RG5 3BN
18/02/02
TEL: 0118956 3900(w)

Ref: TL/2002/5798

PROPOSED ERECTION OF MOBILE PHONE MAST WESTERN AVE WOODLEY

Dear Heidi,

I am writing to OPPOSE the erection of a mast on our road, for the following reasons:

1) The WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION STATES THAT THERE IS INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO NEGATE ANY RISKS TO HEALTH FROM MASTS & PHONES, AND STATES ~~THERE~~ THAT PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN AND THAT CHILDREN ARE PARTICULARLY AT RISK OF NEUROLOGICAL DAMAGE FROM EMISSIONS GIVEN OUT BY PHONE MASTS. AS A PARENT I WANT TO PREVENT ANY SUCH EXPOSURE & THEREFORE OBJECT~~S~~ TO SITING OF THE MAST ON THIS ROAD.

2) It will BE AN EYESORE AND DESTROY THE AESTHETIC BEAUTY of WESTERN AVE.

3) It will CAUSE A HAZARDOUS OBSTRUCTION DURING ERECTION WORKS & MAINTENANCE.

4) It will be an environmental, aesthetic & social catastrophe if you site the mast in

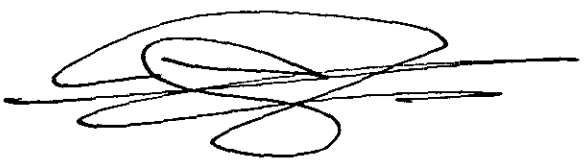
a residential area near a primary school.

We intend to take legal action against the council and have advice from an planning & environment legal specialist, if you try & proceed with the plans to erect a mast on Western Rd.

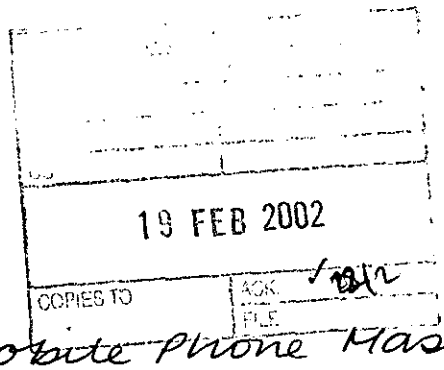
Please note on your file an objection to this proposal.

Yours sincerely

Ian Simpson



67 Ravensbourne Drive
Woodley
Reading
Berks
RG5 4LJ
18.2.02



Re-Proposed Mobile Phone Mast in Western Avenue, Woodley

Dear Ms Lynch

I am a mother of two young children, ages nine and six. My concern in particular is for their Welfare. I do not want to expose them to any unnecessary health risks. I feel that having a mast in the vicinity is doing this. It is emitting amongst other things microwaves. It has been proved that Mobile Phones emit microwaves. There was a test carried out with a piece of bacon placed between two switched on mobile phones. The bacon cooked. It doesn't sound very safe having a mast emitting these microwaves throughout the neighbourhood. People who use Mobile Phones choose to expose themselves. This way with a mast here, we would not have a choice.

I am surprized that as there is St Dominic Savio Primary School very close by, that this particular location of the Mobile Phone Mast was ever considered.

It is also an unsightly object. Is "Orange" likely to compensate householders whose properties depreciate in value because of this? I don't think so.

My husband and I are totally against this.

yours sincerely
Deborah & Nigel Pitt



Note for the Press N° 14
10 October 2001

WHO CLARIFIES ITS POSITION ON HEALTH EFFECTS OF MOBILE PHONE USE

Recent press articles have reported that the World Health Organization (WHO) "insists mobile phone emissions are safe."

Such statements are a distortion of WHO's position on the possible health effects of mobile phone use.

"Electromagnetic Fields and Public Health: Mobile Phones and their Base Stations," WHO Fact Sheet N° 193, revised in June 2000 states: "None of the recent reviews have concluded that exposure to the radiofrequency (RF) fields from mobile phones or their base stations causes any adverse health consequence. However, there are gaps in knowledge that have been identified for further research to better assess health risks. It will take about 3-4 years for the required RF research to be completed, evaluated and to publish the final results of any health risks."

This statement continues to reflect the current status of the science and conveys WHO's position on this issue.

For further information, please contact: Melinda Henry, Spokesperson's Office, WHO; Tel.: (+41 22) 791 2535; Fax: (+41 22) 791 4858; E-mail: henrym@who.int. All WHO Press Releases, Fact Sheets and Features, as well as other information on this subject can be found on the WHO web site: www.who.int .

2001 Press Releases | 2000 Press Releases | 1999 Press Releases
2001 Note for the Press | Fact sheets
Information Office | En français

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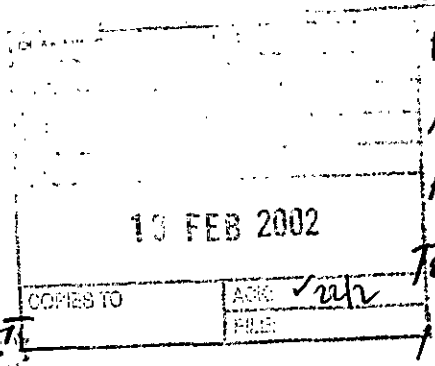
World Health Organization

HEIDI LYNCH
P.O. BOX 157
STILLE END
WOKINGHAM
RG40 1WR.

/ WOKINGHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL
PLANNING DEPT.



MRS L. SIMPSON
'TAMARISK'
WESTERN AVE
WOODLEY
READING
RG5 3BN
TEL: 0118 969 6885

18/2/02

Ref. TL/2002/5798
PROPOSED MOBILE PHONE MAST ERECTION, WESTERN AVE. WOODLEY.

Dear Heidi,

I am writing to you further to our conversation last week to oppose the siting and erection of the mobile phone mast by Orange on Western Ave for the following reasons:

1) The mast goes against Government guidelines issued in IEGMP which advises that Macrocell base stations should not have any beams of the greatest intensity fall on any part of school grounds or buildings without full agreement from the school & parents. Similar considerations apply to all base stations sited near school grounds. (St. Dominic, Western Ave) — You do not have not got their permission (the parents & children) requested

2) The World Health Organisation clearly states that there is insufficient research to state that MOBILE PHONE MASTS & PHONES DO NOT POSE a SIGNIFICANT health risk. Therefore the full health effects are at present unknown. Therefore Children who are particularly at risk should not be exposed.

3) The mast will be an eye degrading the environment. The Avenue is supposed to be protected, to preserve the trees and wildlife the mast will destroy this. It is not in keeping with the local environment.

4) The council do not own the land on which your trying to site the mast. There is no where suitable for it on the road. Access during school hours due to insufficient parking & width of the road is restricted and dangerous & impossible during school drop off & collection times — a mast would add further to it in terms of installation, access & maintenance.

5) Government & independent research is still ongoing while that is the case the risk still exists to children, parents in Western Ave. We have a right to protect ourselves & our children from you the pollution emitted by the mast. We will not allow you to site it here.

We ask that the mast not be sited here nor anywhere else near residential areas or Schools allowing at least a 500 - 1000 m exclusion zone around each mast.

We ~~kompletely~~ objected to the siting of the mast here in Western Avenue. We have taken legal advice from Pitman's Solicitors environment specialist &

will be pursuing that route if you do not withdraw the plans to site a mast on Western Ave.

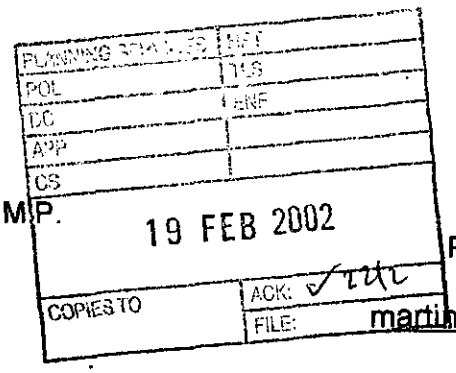
Yours sincerely,

Lisa Simpson

L J Simpson BA(Hons) Dipm ACIM.

Heidi Lynch,
P.O. Box 157,
Shute End,
Wokingham,
RG40 1WR

65 Western Avenue,
Woodley,
Reading,
Berkshire,
RG5 3BL



cc Mrs. Theresa May MP.
Mr. T. Dredge

Phone - Home 0118 9692235
Office 01235 465289
martin@gardener600.fslife.co.uk

17th February 2002

Dear Ms. Lynch

We object to the proposed erection of a telephone mast on Western Av. for the following reasons.

1. There are definite health concerns with regards to these types of installations and the USA, some European Countries and New Zealand have imposed a 500 metre buffer zone between any new phone mast and peoples dwellings. Although nothing is proven yet, if these countries are concerned enough to impose such a restriction then we think it only reasonable to treat these masts in the same vain. To ignore such widely held health concerns is a crass disregard for the welfare of the community.
2. Western Avenue is a very pleasant road and to install such a monstrosity would be totally out of keeping with the area. The community charges for the road would have to be drastically reduced to compensate for the imposition, which would eat into any financial gain, that the council might be looking to receive from the phone company. We will definitely look at litigating against the council to compensate for the reduction in value of our house when we come to selling it if the mast is erected.
3. It is quite reasonable to assume that some residents may decide to take the law into their own hands, if this mast is erected and direct missiles at the mast to try and put it out of action. Should this type of civil disorder take place and our property is damaged in any way by missiles missing the mast and impacting our property, then we would hold the council responsible for the damage. Because to ignore such intense negative opinion against the mast, from the local residents, is simply asking for trouble.
4. The drawing of the trees adjacent to the mast try's to give the impression that the mast will only just be visible above the trees. This is a deception as the majority of trees are nowhere near as high as the mast. The telegraph pole is also drawn, we assume, to try and deceive people into thinking that just another pole won't make any difference. The telegraph pole however is made of timber and is hardly noticeable, whereas the mobile phone mast is a steel structure that would degenerate this part of our avenue into a semi industrial eyesore.
5. We suggest that there is enough open land nearby that is only intermittently frequented by people such as Woodford park (where there is already an ugly looking sports hall), Ashenbury Park, Dinton Pastures and motorway grass verge sites.
6. If the mobile phone mast were to be erected near your, or anyone else who will stand in judgement on this proposal's, dwelling place, would any of you be happy with it ? We think not. You have therefore, we believe, a moral obligation to reject the proposed mast or any other similar such structure from being erected on our avenue.

Yours sincerely,

Martin and Glenys Gardener.

Heidi Lynch,
P.O. Box 157,
Shute End,
Wokingham,
RG40 1WX

cc Mrs. Tracy Mabey M.P.
Cllr. L. Hedges

Phone - Home 0118 9892208
Office 01235 466246
martin@oaranencroft.co.uk

17th February 2021

Dear Ms. Lynch

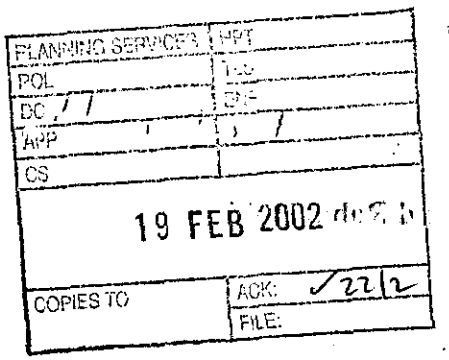
We object to the proposed erection of a telecommunications mast on Western Ave to the following reasons:

1. There are densely populated residences to be affected by the transmissions and the Government guidelines and New Zealand have imposed a 500 metre buffer zone between any mast and people dwellings. Although nothing is proved yet these countries are not prepared to impose such a restriction than we think it only reasonable to take a safe course and ignore such claims whilst research continues.
2. Western Ave is a very pleasant road to live on and to have to look at a telecommunications mast is not the enhancement to the environment we would like. The mast is visible from many miles around and is not in keeping with the area. The company has not been receptive to the objections which were received by the planning department when the application was first submitted.
3. It is quite reasonable to assume that some of the many residents in the area would object to the mast on health grounds and in spite of the assurances given by the mast company that the emissions are within the guidelines we would have thought that the planning department would have been more sympathetic to the residents concerns.
4. The screening of the mast by adjacent trees is not adequate to give protection from the transmissions in the winter months when the trees are bare. The photographs submitted by the applicant do not show the mast in its entirety.
5. We suggest that there is enough open ground in the area that is only intermittently frequented by people such as Wescott's park (where there is already an existing sports mast), Ashenbury Farm, Lemon Pastures and Crazy Egg Lane.
6. If this mast is allowed to be erected where you, or anyone else we know will have to live, then it is difficult for us to object to any other similar such structure from being erected on our premises.

Therefore, we believe, a moral obligation to reject the proposed mast or any other similar such on the proposed site. I would be happy with it. We think not. We have also proposed a counter proposal which may of you be happy with it. We think not. We have also proposed a counter proposal which may of you be happy with it. We think not. We have also proposed a counter proposal which may of you

41 WESTERN AVENUE, WOODLEY, READING, BERKSHIRE, RG5 3BJ
Telephone Home: 0118 962 8029 Work: 0118 953 5378 Mobile: 07979 705202
Facsimile: 0118 901 4624 E-mail: Summit8229@aol.com

Heidi Lynch
Wokingham District Council
P O Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR



17 February 2002

Dear Heidi

RE: Proposed erection of 40ft Mobile Phone Mast for Western Avenue, Woodley
Planning permission ref TL/2002/5798

My family and I are writing to express our extreme opposition to the proposed mast erection in Western Avenue. Not only will the mast be aesthetically ugly, in one of the most established and picturesque location in Woodley but also there are huge health risks that have been highlighted by the press and presented in documented evidence, in relation to the emissions that these masts give off.

We are aware that the masts emit electromagnetic fields, non ionizing radiation, microwaves and radon gas, all of which can affect brain function; causing headaches, sleep disruption, impairment of short term memory and an increasing disposition to certain cancers. We are therefore not prepared to subject ourselves and our family to these risks.

There are a large population of younger children that live locally to the area of the proposed site, not to mention the infant and junior school, St Dominic's and children under twelve years of age are more susceptible to any potential emissions these masts may emit. This is because their nervous system is still developing, making them more susceptible to genetic damage, which could affect their longer-term development.

Western Avenue and associated roads, is one of the prime areas in Woodley and its occupants work hard to keep the road looking pleasant and in keeping with its tree-lined, semi-rural look. We are a community in our own right and look after the interests of one another; this is why we are totally unprepared to accept a telephone mast, which in our opinion is not necessary.

Most of the population own a mobile phone (my own family included) and we are not aware of any problems with network coverage in the Woodley area. Why, therefore, do we need a huge mast, that can be seen for miles around, is right in the middle of a residential area, will have little or no screening, with all the associated health risks, when we are perfectly happy with the current coverage?

Yours faithfully

Vicci Simpson Robin Holt

Vicci Simpson and Robin Holt

Rodney and Marian Ogbeide
8 Eynsham Close,
Woodley,
Reading RG5 4LF
Berkshire
18th February, 2002

19 FEB 2002
COPIES TO
ACK: 2/2/2
FILE:

Heidi Lynch,
P.O. Box 157,
Shute End,
Wokingham RG40 1WR

Ref. TL/2002/5798

Re. : 40ft Mobile Phone Mast Proposed for Western Avenue, Woodley

We have heard with dismay that there are plans for a 40ft Mobile Telephone Mast to be erected in the Western Road area of Woodley.

We have been resident in Woodley for the past 12 years and have been very happy living within a community that strives to remain safe and environmentally conscious. This proposal for a telephone mast in our community will be in direct conflict with these ideals and we feel is totally inappropriate and unnecessary.

The mobile phone market is already saturated with infrastructure and there can be no good reason to make such an installation right in the middle of a thriving residential area. If it is absolutely necessary for this to go ahead, then why not far away from villages, towns and suburbs where there can be no adverse effects on people and their property.

Woodley is primarily a family oriented residential area, and any such installation should be in the best interests of the residents and not those who wish to profit financially from this project. We are aware that there is concern that such an installation could pose significant health risks to residents. Any health risk to our community, and in particular to our children, no matter how remote, must be taken seriously and under no circumstances should they be trivialised and condoned just to satisfy the profiteering needs of the proposers of this telephone mast project.

In addition, we have invested our life savings in purchasing property in Woodley. If this project goes ahead, we risk seeing a substantial drop in the value of our property, which again I think is totally unacceptable. There is already a dangerous proliferation of mobile phone usage in the UK so there really is no need to add to the problem or create new problems at the expense of ordinary people trying to live ordinary albeit safe and environmentally focused lives.

We trust that our views will be taken into consideration by the decision makers and we request that plans for this project be dropped immediately.

Yours sincerely,

Rodney Ogbeide

cc Teresa May MP

40ft Mobile Phone Mast Proposed for Western Avenue

Time is running out...you only have until 20th Feb. to state your views on the proposal by Orange to install a mobile phone mast in our area. We need YOUR support.
Only strong public opposition can prevent this happening otherwise Orange will go ahead.

What does it look like? These masts are ugly ranging from poles to pylons with large base stations, hanging cables and microwave dishes. Once installed they are often added to by other companies ie; more masts, dishes etc - "mast sharing," they get uglier and bigger !

How it may effect your quality of life?

- **Health Risks;** Over a wide area masts emit electromagnetic fields, non ionising radiation, microwaves & radon gas, this potentially harmful cocktail of emissions is not something to be slow cooked by whilst we sleep at night. Documented evidence suggests these emissions affect brain function causing headaches, sleep disruption, impairment of short term memory and an increasing predisposition to certain cancers. Some of these may not be life threatening but they will have a debilitating effect on our well being.

- **Children at Risk** Children are particularly vulnerable, especially those below 12 yrs. of age, as their nervous system is still developing making them more susceptible to genetic damage which in turn could undermine neurological and academic development. There have also been reports of an increase in seizures amongst epileptic children.
St. Dominics School is less than 300 mtrs from the proposed site.

- **Noise:** In high winds the wires bang & clank together - a persistent irritation for us all.

- **General Disruption;** Engineers may turn up day or night using powerful overhead lighting to carry out maintenance work. You may be forced to walk in the road whilst maintenance works are carried out as the proposed site is very narrow. Driving may become hazardous as you negotiate parked cars, school traffic and telecommunications vehicles.

- **TV transmission**; The mast may cause widespread disruption & physical interference with TV and other telecommunications devices and may have significant impact on electrical equipment of any kind.

- **The Environment:** Emissions may destroy or at minimum adversely affect local wildlife.

- **Visual Amenity;** There is unlikely to be any landscaping of the mast as it will be in the small island of shrubs & bushes opposite Radcot Close, the area is not wide enough to allow for screening causing an acute eyesore. *A notice has been erected on the proposed site with contact numbers & a web site address - take a look for more info.*

- **Property Value;** Would you buy a house where a huge, ugly monstrosity exists and one that may have adverse health affects? Western Avenue & associated roads are currently the most sought after residential area in Woodley, where property prices can be more than 10% above the rest of Woodley. A mast will depreciate the value of your home.

Act now and keep our area beautiful, safe and mast free.

~ YOU MUST WRITE TO; Heidi Lynch, P.O Box 157 Shute End Wokingham, RG40 1WR. Quoting ref TL/2002/5798 to arrive before 20th Feb. stating your views & concerns.

~ ***ATTEND*** *the next Town Council meeting 5/3/02 @ 8pm Woodford Park Leisure Centre*

~ Increase awareness and support, copy your letters or approach the following;

- **Teresa May MP**, House Of Commons. London SW1A 0AA
- **Peter Skinner, Emma Nicholson, Roy Perry MEPs.** UK Office of European Members of Parliment, 2 Queen Annes Gate, London, SW1H 9AA
- **Terry Dredge Councillor,** 67 Welford Close, Woodley, RG5 4QS

Caladh
Western Avenue
Woodley
READING
Berks. RG5 3BH

14 February 2002

Ms Heidi Lynch
Wokingham Council Planning Services
PO Box 157
Wokingham RG10 1WR

PLANNING SERVICES	RPT
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CS	
19 FEB 2002	
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	FILE:

Dear Ms Lynch,

Application : TL/2002/5798
Erection of a telecommunications mast at the junction of Radcott Close and Western Avenue.

I am writing to object to the above planning application. The case for objection is outlined in the attached letter which I feel is a considered and reasoned case based on sound facts and not scare mongering or simply being a case of 'not in my back yard'.

Yours sincerely

Steve Hogg

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach." [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely:

Name:

Address:

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

10 Godstow Close
Woodley
Reading
RG5 4LE

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POL	TLS
DC	ENF
APP	
CS	
19 FEB 2002	
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Attn Heidi Lynch
Wokingham District Council
Planning Services
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks RG40 1WR

15th February 2002

Dear Ms Lynch

Re: Planning Application : TL/2002/5798

I was most horrified to receive your letter informing me of the proposal from Orange PCSL to erect a 11.8m high free standing telecommunications column with 1 omni directional antenna on land at the junction of Radcot Close and Western Avenue, Woodley, which is very close to my house.

I therefore wish to register my strong **OBJECTION** to the proposed erection for the following reasons.

1) I have very grave concerns about the health risk from long term exposure to radiation from such a mobile phone mast. The Stewart report states "that it is not possible to say exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects", and "children may be more vulnerable". In view of the close proximity of children's play areas, St Dominics' School and residential properties where many children live, the siting of such a mast in this location would place all these children at greater risk from exposure to RF radiation therefore surely, as a precautionary measure, this application should be refused.

2) The mast will be some 11.8m tall, including the antennas. It will be totally out of character with the residential area. It will be very detrimental to the visual amenity and quality of life of residents.

3) PPG8 guidelines encourage mast sharing so if it was passed the proposed mast would set a precedence and open the floodgates to more and bigger masts with more antennae in the immediate vicinity.

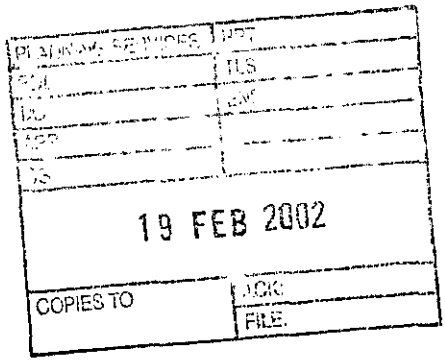
4) Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for the area.

The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.
Please do not allow this mast, or any other mast to be sited at or near this location.

Yours Sincerely

Linda Coldwell

Mrs L J Coldwell



67 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire
RG5 3BL

12/02/2002

Re: 40ft Mobile Phone Mast Proposed for Western Avenue

Dear Ms Lynch

I was very surprised to hear of the above proposal, and also very concerned to learn of the possible health risk as I still have two growing children at home, not to mention the effect this will have on our Primary School (St Dominics) across the road from us. I have never seen a mast erected in a built up area and especially in a lovely tree lined road as ours.

I would urge you and your team to consider this proposal carefully and I know if you asked yourselves how you would feel if this was to happen to you, your home and your family, then I rest my case. This has to be declined.

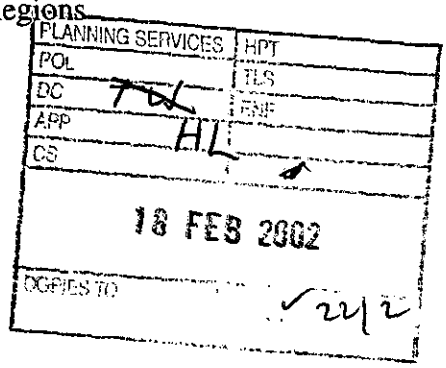
Yours Sincerely

J Swanborough (Mrs)

Obs

THERESA MAY MP
Shadow Secretary of State for
Transport, Local Government and the Regions

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA



Ms Anna Cronin
Head of Planning & Transportation
Wokingham District Council
P O Box 157 Shute End
Reading
Berkshire RG40 1WR

14 February 2002

Dear Ms Cronin

Re; Planning application No TL/2002/5798
Erection of Telecoms mast on land at Radcot Close and land at junction of Western Avenue Woodley.

I have received a number of complaints from constituents about the above application.

They are particularly concerned that a mast is proposed in close proximity to St Dominic Savio's primary school.

I share their concerns that the proposed mast would adversely affect the amenity of the locality and about the need to apply the precautionary principle in relation to the siting of the mast close to a primary school.

I would therefore urge the authority in line with PPG8 to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely

MRS THERESA MAY MP.

Tel: 0207 219 5206 *Fax: 0207 219 1145*
E-mail: mayt@parliament.uk

Tel. (0118) 974 6425 (Direct Line)
Fax. (0118) 974 6484
Email. Anna.Cronin@wokingham.gov.uk
Date 19 February 2002
My ref. AC/SB/TL/2002/5798
Your ref.

Mrs Theresa May, MP
Shadow Secretary of State for
Transport, Local Government and the Regions
House of Commons
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

Environmental Services Department
Planning Services
P.O. Box 157
Shute End, Wokingham
Berkshire RG40 1WR
Minicom No: (0118) 974 6991
DX: 33506 – Wokingham
http://www.wokingham.gov.uk

Dear Mrs May

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. TL/2002/5798
ERECTION OF TELECOMS MAST ON LAND AT RADCOT CLOSE AND LAND AT JUNCTION OF WESTERN AVENUE, WOODLEY

Thank you for your letter of 14 February outlining your concerns, and those of your constituents, with the above planning application.

Your letter has been passed to the case officer, Heidi Lynch, and your comments will be taken into account when this application is decided.

I hope this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

SB

pp ANNA CRONIN
Head of Planning & Transportation

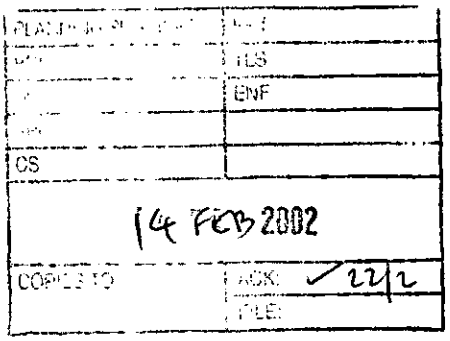
MRS MR & MRS. A. HOLTHAM & FAMILY.

11, Godstow Close
Woodley
Reading
RG5 4LE

0118 9697970

13th February 2002

Heidi Lynch
Planning Services
Wokingham District Council
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham RG40 1WR



Dear Ms. Lynch

Re: Planning Application: TL/2002/5798

Thank you for your letter of 01 February 02

We most strongly object to the plans submitted proposing the placement of a telecommunications mast on the land at the junction of Radcot Close and Western Avenue Woodley.

There are numerous reasons for our objection, but first and foremost we should surely be looking to protect our environment wherever possible. The placing of a mast on that site is completely out of character with the area. It is unacceptably close to family housing, play areas, and a school. The site is a mere 10 metres from the nearest property, and there are many other houses also within striking distance that are family homes.

There is a children's play area within very close proximity, which can be no more than 50 metres away from the proposed site.

The nearest school – St. Dominics - is, we believe approximately 250 metres away. We gather that the Head has already stated her opposition to the plan.

The mast, at some 11.8 metres high will be completely out of character with the surrounding residential area. It will be very detrimental to the visual amenity & quality of life of residents.

Government guidelines (PPG8) encourage mast sharing, so a) the application is against those recommendations, and b) if it were to be passed the proposed mast would set a precedence, & open the floodgates to more, no doubt, bigger masts in or around the same location.

There will be a detrimental effect on house prices and ease of sale. I would not be surprised if the lack of action from the council in the past is cause for action for compensation.

The Application states that five other sites have been considered and rejected, however I fail to understand how some of the reasons for the rejection of these other sites do not apply to the site now proposed, especially visual impact, relationship with dwellings and most importantly close to a school.

The health risk is a real worry. The Stewart report (independently produced in 2000) says that 'it is not possible to say exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects'. It goes on to say that 'children may be more vulnerable'. The radiation 'zone' patterns would appear to begin in the residential area of Western Avenue and the many roads adjacent to it. Another legal nightmare on the horizon? The risks may not be fully proven, but it cannot be a risk worth taking.

We do not say that masts are not required, but there are other more acceptable sites which could be used – particularly on or near the railway cutting perhaps where the distance from any residential properties would be much greater & the visual impact would be less, especially if it was attached to existing electricity pylons as recommended in the Planning Policy Guidance Note (PPG8). We are not simply saying 'not in my back yard', we are saying 'be proactive and provide a sensible alternative to the one suggested'. For the application to conclude that the 'infrastructure proposed.....has been sited...in order to limit the impact on the local environment' is almost beyond belief.

We fail to understand why such applications are "sprung" upon residents with little warning or time to allow proper discussion and would like to suggest that surely it is not too late for all relevant parties to work together now to find a sensible solution satisfying everyone's needs and concerns.

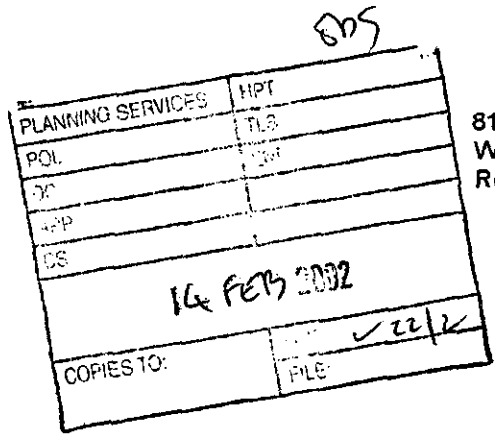
We ask that you please do not allow this application, or anything similar to succeed. There are plenty of non-residential and business sites that could be used that would not inconvenience anybody. The council should explore these potential sites at the earliest possible opportunity and a list made so that when such applications are made, an alternative can be suggested in a positive way, for both the mobile phone companies and the residents of Wokingham District Council.

Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely



Mr. & Mrs A Holtham and Family



81 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading RG5 3BL

12 February 2002

Ref TL/2002/5798

Ms Heidi Lynch
PO Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham RG40 1WR

Dear Ms Lynch

MOBILE PHONE MAST PROPOSED FOR WESTERN AVENUE

I have to write to complain about the above issue.

Apart from the obvious concerns i.e. possible widespread interference with TV, telecommunications devices and electrical equipment, aesthetic value, not environmentally friendly, depreciation of properties, (which the Council may have to provide compensation), *my main anxiety is the HEALTH RISK!*

I am not interested in what the bureaucrats say, this is a real worry and I would not be a caring parent if I did not raise this important issue. The proposed proximity of this mast to homes and a school has to be seriously questioned!! It simply is not appropriate!!

Yours sincerely

C. Silvey.

Mrs Christine Silvey

31 Wickford Avenue
Weeley
Reading RG5 3BL

15 February 2022

Ref: TL/2002/0738

Ms Heidi Lynch
PO Box 151
Shute End
Wokingham RG40 1WR

Dear Ms Lynch

MOBILE PHONE MAST PROPOSED FOR WESTERN AVENUE

I have to write to complain about the above issue.

Apart from the obvious concerns re. possible radiation interference with TV and radio communications devices and electrical equipment, my main objection is that the recently declared declaration of properties which the Council may wish to propose for demolition) is very much in the HEART of VISION!

I am not entirely clear what the Borough Council's policy is on this matter and would not be surprised if it does not have one. The proposed mast is almost to be erected on land which is currently owned by the Council. I simply do not understand how it could be considered appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Christine Binley

RTV
VIDEO ASSIST

7 Warren Road, Woodley, Reading, Berkshire, RG5 3AP.
Mobile - 07973-286-933 ~ Fax - 0118-969-6632 ~ Home Phone - 0118-969-6632
E-mail – rtvideo@hotmail.com

8/05

PLANNING SERVICES | APT
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FILE:

February 11, 2002
Heidi Lynch
Wokingham Unitary planning services
Po Box 157 shute end, Wokingham Berkshire RG40 1WR.

REF: Application number TL/2002/5798

Dear Heidi Lynch

I am writing to object strongly to the above application. Firstly on the grounds of any health hazard that the antenna might pose,and secondly it will deface what is a prime residential area.

Yours faithfully

R. Taggart

Ross Taggart - RT Video

885

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	ENF

14 FEB 2002

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	FILE:

6th February 2002

Wokingham Unitary
Planning Services
P O Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1WR

Canford
Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berks
RG5 3BH

Attn: Heidi Lynch.

Dear Madam

Re: TL/2002/5798.

I write to object to the above application due to the following points.

1) We have not been advised of the levels of RF radiation.

2) The mast is sited too close to residential properties.

3) The mast is sited too close to a local School.

4) The elevation on Arrow X on the proposed drawing indicates a 7m fir type tree and a 8.5m high large oak type tree but does not detail the type or when these will be planted.

5) Full details of the cabinets have not been provided.

6) The 1.250 scale site plan is incorrect in layout.

7) A clear statement needs to be obtained to prove there is no health hazards from this installation.

I trust that the unitary will make the correct decision on this application and reject the same.

Yours faithfully

M G Evans.

P.O. Box 157 Shute End
Wokingham RG40 1WR

39 Western Avenue
Woodley
Reading
Berkshire RG5 3BJ

0118 969 3065

13 February 2002

DRS

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POE	TLS
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14 FEB 2002

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Dear Ms Lynch,

MOBILE PHONE MAST IN WESTERN AVENUE
REF TL/2002/5798

Please register my strong protest against the siting of this mast for the following reasons.

HEALTH RISK As I understand it there is a finite or unknown risk to health due to the electromagnetic field strengths necessary for the operation of the phone links. The siting near residential property, a school and a well supported church is then very ill chosen.

VISUAL BLIGHT The avenue is a particularly pleasant area and much property improvement has taken place over the last few years, as your own building files will show. The houses with a view of the mast are the most affected by the structure, of course, but all residents, together with attendees at church and school will have to look at it in passing.

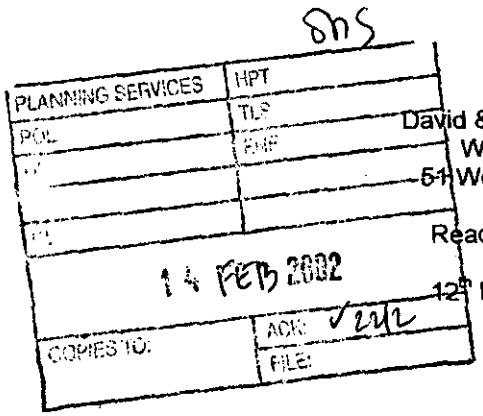
PROPERTY VALUE The value of property generally will be lowered by this development. What COMPENSATION is there? Will COUNCIL TAX BE REDUCED? What is the answer?

THE SITE Who has sold the land? Is it a private vendor or is it council land? If you don`t know please advise where I can find out.

Yours sincerely,

D.G.Waters.

Copies Teresa May MP
Terry Dredge



David & Diane Carter
Western House,
51 Western Avenue
Woodley,
Reading RG5 3BJ

12th February 2002

Planning & Development Dept
Wokingham District Council

FAO Heidi Lynch – Planning Case Officer

Dear Ms Lynch

Re: Application For Development by Telecommunications Code System Operators
Permitted Development Application No. TL/2002/5798 - By Orange Communications Ltd.
Location of Proposed Mast Erection – Land at Western Avenue / Radcot Close

Please find detailed below my observations and official objections to the proposed development.

Objection – Health concerns: We (all of us) do not know enough about the short, medium & long term risks associated with constant bombardment by microwave radiation. This technology has not yet been proved as safe. I (and the majority of my neighbours) have deep-seated concerns and worries regarding mobile masts and their perceived detrimental effect on health grounds. Current research on this matter has merely concentrated on the effects of tissue heating only from microwave emitting antenna. There is, however, a large body of scientific research that now challenges this view with regard to other possible symptoms such as increased cancer risk, sterility, effects on heart pacemakers etc.
This must be seriously considered by a district council who pride themselves on their attitude towards individual health & the environment.

Objection – That the "precautionary principle" recommended in the Government commissioned Stewart Report for the IEGMP (May 2000), which calls for a cessation in the erection of masts close to people until more was known about the possible health effects of masts, appears to have been ignored in this case.

Objection – I note that the PPG8 Appendix para 64 states that masts are a particular height which allows signals to clear trees and suburban clutter (houses?) and that *Telecommunications development may need particular locations in order to work effectively.* However, it also states that these prominent locations may be exactly the locations that would pose challenges to policies for the protection of high quality landscapes and quality in suburban areas. This is an alteration to the previous advise that had the specific height of 20 metres, that being the case it suggests, therefore that masts below 20m in height cannot achieve satisfactory performance due to the proximity of this urban clutter – a 40 foot high mast (in this example) would therefore appear wholly useless, **unless a high powered emitter was installed to regain this shortfall**. Is it then the case that local residents should be 'slow cooked' as they sleep in their beds, as this is what microwaves do, after all? Many people, consider the Western Avenue area to be a quality suburban area within locality – please do not ruin what is arguably the nicest road in Woodley.

Objection – I cannot see that any consideration (or more importantly, evidence) that suggests that ORANGE have considered mast sharing or sharing an existing site in the area as an alternative to developing this amenity as a new mast site. The Government has attached considerable importance to mast sharing in keeping the numbers of sites and installations to a minimum PPG 8, Para. 19 to 23. Conditions in code operators' licences require applicants to explore the possibility of site or mast sharing in the first instance – this evidence should accompany any application made to the local planning authority whether a prior approval application under Part 24 of the GPDO or an application for planning permission under the T&CPA 1990 . Other telecommunication operators (One to One, Vodafone, BT Cellnet) cannot refuse this request unless there is a demonstrable reason why not, as the Director General of OFTEL has powers to force shared use for this very reason. If not mast sharing, operators are at least encouraged to site new masts alongside existing ones on sites already deemed suitable for this purpose. It is not apparent from any correspondence or information available for viewing at the Council Offices that mast sharing was ever considered.

Objection – I suspect that the Council has a biased commercial interest in the development due to the potential rental income generated by this privately owned structure being situated on Wokingham District Council land.

Objection – That the proposed development in no way benefits the local community. Mobile 'phone coverage is more than adequate in this area – the new mast is simply a commercial venture by Orange in order to 'capture' a wider area of the district away from this locality.

Objection – That the proposed development is out of character with Western Avenue. A mast with little or no screening is not going to blend in at all with the local area, so ensuring further detriment.

Objection – That with the expected future concerns on mobile 'phone mast safety being similar to those recently raised regarding overhead power lines and television broadcast antennae, private property values will plummet in areas where masts have been erected in or near to residential properties.
I have just spent £70,000 in the last 12 months on extending my property. I would not have invested the money knowing that such a development may take place.
A number of residents have already taken legal advice. The summary has been that if a local authority allow a development to commence that reduces the value of resident's estate, then this action warrants compensation. The can occur in three main areas:

1. An immediate Council tax rebate as the council have indirectly reduced the value of resident's properties.
2. An independent real estate consultant would assess the drop in value of all associated properties..... the difference would be claimed by the residents.
3. Any potential health problems would cost the district valuable health service resource.

Please consider - US and other European countries stipulate a minimum exclusion zone of 500m from mast sites to the vulnerable. The Stewart Report also recommends such exclusion zones Paras 1.44-1.48 Stewart Report.

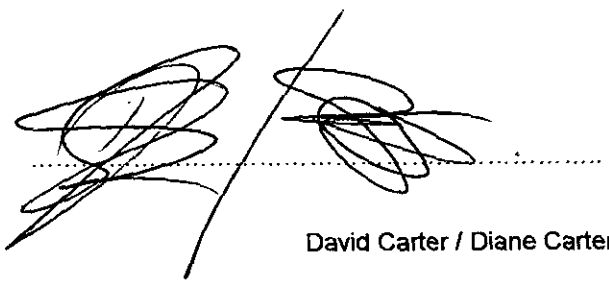
Objection – That the development may have significant and irremediable interference with other electrical equipment of any kind. This can be material planning consideration according to PPG 8, Appendix Para. 102.

Objection – That the development will cause widespread physical interference and disruption to existing television and other telecommunication services due to the physical obstruction or reflection of the wanted signals. Local Authorities need to have taken into account that the potential for interference has been fully considered in the siting and design of this development, as it would be impossible to correct this situation after the site becomes operational. This also can be material planning consideration according to PPG 8, Para. 33.

Objection – My final (most important) objection is on behalf of my two-year-old son.
Children under 12 years are particularly vunerable to microwave radiation.
They are more susceptible to genetic damage which could affect their academic development..... **St Dominics Primary school is less than 300 metres from the proposed site.**

Observation – Under current legislation, including the aforementioned relevant Health & Safety Guidelines and the European Human Rights Act, there is already the very real potential for individual litigation processes to be instigated against Local Authorities, corporate bodies or individuals involved in any way in the approval, erection and operation of apparatus proposed in this and similar applications. It is therefore advised that you seriously consider investigating the legality and consequences, whether current or future, of your involvement in any approval of this and other similar applications in this Borough.
I look forward to your official response to the points raised above, before the cut-off date mentioned previously is reached – please do not allow a lack of response on the Council's behalf to be responsible for this irresponsible development proceeding by default. I urge you to reject this application.

Yours faithfully



David Carter / Diane Carter

Tel: (Daytime) 07803 133 979, (Evening) 0118 96 999 96

805

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	PLC

33, Western Avenue

Woodley.

February 12, 2002

P.O.Box 157, Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 1WR

Dear Sir or Madam:

Reference TL/2002/5798

I wish to protest at the proposal to erect a 40ft mobile phone mast on Western Avenue, Woodley.

I am shocked to learn that such a mast is to be erected in close proximity to residential houses and within 300 metres of a primary school. The potential health risks have been well documented and the effects, especially on children, have been proved by medical opinion as to be a threat to everyday lives. Those who come into close contact with a mast will put themselves at a high risk of being seriously affected if this planned mast erection goes ahead.

Another point against the mast is the proposed location on Western Avenue which is in a highly sought after area of North Woodley where house prices can be 10% higher than their equivalents elsewhere in the town. The sight of a huge mast is at best an eye-sore and at worst is a major blight to the road and its surrounding streets. As far as potential house sellers are concerned, due to the position of the proposed mast being right next to a favourable tree lined avenue, I have serious concerns regarding the potential devaluation of house prices in the area. For potential house purchasers, who wants to live next to a 40ft mast?

In my view there isn't a need for a new mast since individual cell phone companies could and should use each other's masts that are already in place within the local area. Woodley is not in a phone reception black spot.

There are innumerable other potential brown field sites relatively close by which a mast could be erected if it was absolutely necessary that would not be in such close contact to houses and schools and would not have such an immediate impact on the local environment.

Sincerely,

D. Nuttman

David Nuttman

DNS

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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

1. Although telecommunications companies claim that the emissions are negligible, they have no data on long-term exposure to low-levels of radiation in humans. The available data is on short-term exposure and no records extend over 5+ years of continual low-level exposure. Although Nick Raynsford (Environment Minister) is on record as stating there is no evidence of masts posing a health hazard, this is because suitable long-term studies have not been undertaken [Stewart Report 6.20, 6.23, 6.40].

2. There have been reports of an increase in the incidence of cancer amongst school children in exceptional cases of proximity to such masts (Guardian, Jan 12, 2002). The World Health Organisation (WHO) has just commissioned a large scale epidemiological study over 10 countries to examine this issue.

3. In the intervening period a number of European Countries, USA States and New Zealand have established 500m exclusion zones around equivalent masts.

4. Due to the emission characteristics, the greatest microwave intensity may not fall on the most proximal properties, but may fall between 50m and 200m from the mast [Stewart Report 4.30]. This may include St Dominic's School and the Stewart Report [6.66] recommends that the Governors should be consulted if the beam of maximum intensity falls anywhere within, or close to, school grounds.

5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

8. The need for this development is open to question. Mobile phone reception is already adequate within the area proposed and it is not providing mobile communication to an area without any access. It is therefore unclear as to why a mast should be sited in a densely populated residential street, rather than a sparsely populated area such as the landfill sites in the Wokingham District.

To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

"... it is not possible at present to say that exposure to RF radiation, even at levels below national guidelines, is totally without potential adverse health effects, and the gaps in the knowledge are sufficient to justify a precautionary approach." [6.39]

The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: Mark Hall

Name: MARK HALL

Address: 'DORMAR' WESTERN AVENUE
WOODLEY, READING, BERKS.
RG5 3BH

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1):
http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

8n3

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8 Radcot Close
RG5 3BG
11/2/2002

Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

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I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: Gerard A Lobo

Name: G.A LOBO, OBE

Address: 8 RADCOT CLOSE
WOODLEY
READING, RG5 3JG

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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Application: TL/2002/5798

Erection of a telecommunications column at the junction of Radcott Close & Western Avenue.

Dear Ms Lynch

In respect to the proposed development, the application by Orange PCSL is in disregard for the "*Precautionary Principle*" recommended in the Stewart Report [6.39]. It seems clear that under the *Precautionary Principle* Wokingham Council should not approve any such masts, of whatever height, within dense residential areas. Several observations are pertinent to this argument:

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5. An extension of point 4, however, is that Woodley residents should be informed if the beam of maximum intensity falls on their property. Children may absorb up to 60% more RF radiation that adults and given that they spend more hours in the home (e.g. overnight) than at school then the risk is elevated. In this respect in some houses a young child may be exposed to low level RF radiation from a proximal mast for 10 hrs a day, 300+ days a year for 10 years. There is no data on the effects of such exposure. The data on attenuation of RF levels due to concrete roofing in schools (National Radiological Protection Board) does not hold for the construction of private homes.

6. As the trend moves towards mast-sharing with other operators [Stewart report.6.70], the total power output levels may increase without further approval from residents or WDC.

7. Given the "evidence" and opinion within the public domain it is inevitable that this development will impact negatively on property prices for this zone.

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To summarize, the definitive document to date on this issue is the Stewart report and this concludes:

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The *precautionary approach* implies a balance between possible risks, which are at present unresolved, and potential benefits, which seems slight/negligible, for the local residents. Placing a mast in the centre of a dense residential district, which already has reasonable mobile coverage, can in no way be considered as subscribing to a precautionary approach and Wokingham rate-payers have a right to expect the council to subscribe to the *Precautionary Principle* (European Union, Treaty of Maastrict, 1992).

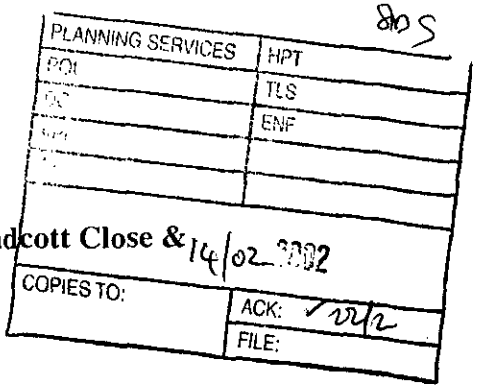
I request that Wokingham Council reject this application and informs Orange that it will adopt a *precautionary approach* with respected to any equivalent proposals for installations in dense residential areas, pending the results of the epidemiological study being co-ordinated by the WHO.

Yours Sincerely: STEPHEN HALL.

Name:

Address: DORMAR
WESTERN AVENUE.
WOODLEY
RG5-3BH.

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm



Application: TL/2002/5798

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Yours Sincerely:

Name: DJ and CA ELLIS

Address: 'Cronulla' Westen Avenue
Woodley Reading RG5 3BH

Stewart report:
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http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm

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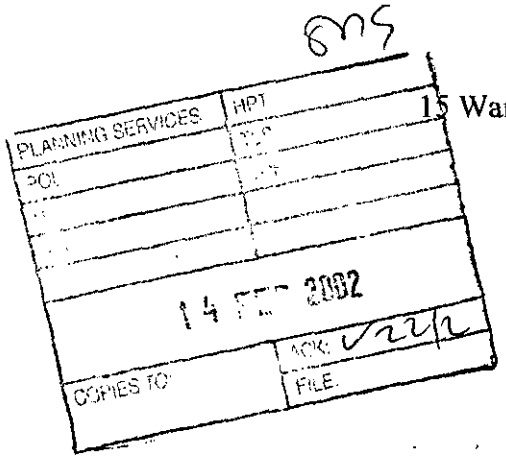
Yours Sincerely:

Name: Mrs Jean Curtis

Address: 30 RADCOT CLOSE
WOODLEY READING
BERKSHIRE
RG5-3BY

Stewart report:
Independent Expert Group Report on Mobile Phones & Health (Chair: Sir William Stewart), Information Office, National Radiological Protection Board, May 11, 2000. (ISBN 0-85951-450-1): http://www.iegmp.org.uk/IEGMPtxt.htm



15 Warren Road
Woodley
Berks
11/2/2002

Wokingham D.C
Environmental Services Dept
P. O. Box 157
Shute End
Wokingham
Berks RG40 1WR

For the attention of Heidi Lynch-Development Control Officer

Dear Ms Lynch,

Re Planning Application No: TL/2002/5798

I write to object to the proposed erection of a telecommunication mast on land at the junction of Radcot Close and Western Avenue, Woodley.

To place such a mast (40 Ft high) in the middle of a residential area , close to a primary school, is not appropriate.

There must be a more suitable site for this mast at a reasonable distance from a residential area.

The Stewart Report apparently recommended that exclusion zones should be placed around all base stations which indicates that there is some concern in placing masts close to sensitive locations such as schools and residential areas.

Yours Faithfully

T. Emberson

App No
TL/2002/5798

11 Warren Rd
Bns Woodley

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VC	ENF
APP	13.2.02
CS	
14 FEB 2002	
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W.D.C
PO Box 157.
att Heidi Lynch

Dear Sir

My wife & I do protest at the planned erection of a Telecom Mast on Warren Ave there is a health risk here & harmful waves are a danger particularly to young

children taking
consideration of the
local school a
few yards away

Yours faithfully

A. E. Humphreys

"Coppers"
113 Western Avenue
Woodley
Berks RG5 3BL
0118 969 2599

SDS

11 Feb 02

PLANNING SERVICES	
SCH	TLS
DC	
LP	
CP	
14 FEB 2002	
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Ref - TL/2002/51948

Dear Mr Lynch,

The recent announcement of the proposed Phone mast in this road forces me to write for registering my protest.

A national investigation has yet to prove that these gsm-sons do not cause health problems, in particular to children. There is a school nearby, of course.

In addition, the proposed site,

within yards of numbers of homes,
is crazy. I cannot think such
a position, in a residential area,
is the best answer.

~~Orpington~~ Bromley must think again,
please. The other area in Woodford
Park seems a better answer.

Yours truly,

Richard

15 FEB 2002
ACK: 22/2
FILE:

Application: TL/2002/5798

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Yours Sincerely: G. S. WANN

Name: MRS. G. S. WANN

Address: 54 RADCOT CLOSE
WOODLEY RG5. 3BG.

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