

**Our Ref: CTIL108282\_VF19504\_TEF69822**

Clerk to:  
Blackbird Leys Parish Council

**BY EMAIL**

20<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Ms Kearney,

**PROPOSED BASE STATION UPGRADE AT CTIL108282\_VF19504\_TEF69822 - WINDRUSH TOWER, KNIGHTS ROAD, BLACKBIRD LEYS, OXFORD, OX4 6HX (NGR: 455183E, 202785N).**

Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Ltd (Cornerstone) is a joint venture company owned by Vodafone Limited and Telefónica UK Limited, commonly known as O2, who manage a single grid network across the UK for these companies. This agreement allows both organisations to pool their basic network infrastructure, while running two, independent, nationwide networks. It maximises opportunities to consolidate the number of base stations and where possible can significantly reduce the environmental impact of network development.

5G rollout has begun and so Vodafone and Telefónica are in the process of upgrading their existing radio base stations in their single grid network wherever possible.

As part of this continued network improvement program, there is a specific technical requirement to provide new 5G coverage in this area of Oxford.

Mobiles can only work with a network of base stations in place where people want to use their mobile phones or other wireless devices. Without base stations, the mobile phones and other devices we rely on simply won't work.

We aim to work with you to progress a proposal that is both acceptable to the Council and meets the operators technical network requirements. This approach accords with Cornerstone's Best Practice Commitments to ensure consultation with Local Planning Authorities and other appropriate key stakeholders.

This email therefore invites you, in accordance with planning policy guidance and Best Practice Commitments, to enter into pre-application discussions with regard to Cornerstone's preferred site option prior to a formal planning submission.

**Our technical network requirement is as follows:**

- **CTIL108282\_VF19504\_TEF69822 - WINDRUSH TOWER**
- This site has been identified as a site which requires and would benefit from an upgrade to accommodate increased network demands, provide modern technologies and frequencies, and allow for continued consistent coverage to be provided to this area by Telefónica and Vodafone.



- **WINDRUSH TOWER, KNIGHTS ROAD, BLACKBIRD LEYS, OXFORD, OX4 6HX (NGR: 455183E, 202785N).**
- The proposal includes the installation of 6No. new Vodafone antennas;
- Installation of ancillary equipment;
- Installation of Vodafone Equipment Cabinets within Telefonica equipment room and development ancillary thereto.
- This is an existing telecoms site and the proposed amendment will have minimal impact on the appearance of the site and the area. By utilising the existing site, Telefonica and Vodafone are providing improved speed and capacity to the locality with minimum impact on the character of the surrounding area.

The Local Planning Authority mast register, where available, and our records of other potential sites have already been reviewed, the policies in the Development Plan have been taken into account and the planning history of the site has been examined.

All Telefónica and Vodafone installations are designed to be fully compliant with the public exposure guidelines established by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). These guidelines have the support of UK Government, the European Union and they also have the formal backing of the World Health Organisation. A certificate of ICNIRP compliance will be included within the planning submission.

In order to give you time to send your comments or request further information, we commit to allow at least 14 days before an application is submitted to the Local Planning Authority. This 14 day period starts from the date at the top of this letter.

We would also be grateful if you could please advise of any local stakeholders or groups that might like to make comments.

We look forward to receiving any comments you may have on the proposal.

Yours faithfully,



**Martin Allwork**  
Surveyor  
Sinclair Dalby Ltd



(for and on behalf of Cornerstone and Vodafone Ltd)