

Objections to the planning proposal for an antenna near Castle Hall Academy, Mirfield.
Application Number 2023/91933

I wish to object to this application on the following grounds.

1/ Electromagnetic radiation. The proposed antenna will be sited next to a frequently used public footpath where users will be exposed to electromagnetic radiation when the antenna is in operation. The structure that it is to replace places no such hazard as it is on top of a school building where the structure of the roof would insulate and protect anyone in the building from radiation. The old antenna is not adjacent to the path per se. There is no such insulation to the free-standing antenna as proposed and people using the path would be at risk.

2/ Reduction of green space in Mirfield. It is a well-known concern about the loss of amenities and green spaces in Mirfield and this structure would represent a further deterioration. There must be better locations to locate such a structure! It is not denied that the structure would appear to be on school property and items of an academic necessity should not be denied. A phone mast hardly qualifies as essential, other than by the income that the school would derive from having the mast there. Would the school be promoting the mast if it was not for financial gain?

3/ In 2/ above it might appear that the structure would be on school property but the presence of common land has deliberately been omitted from the plans as submitted, and this suggests that by not showing that the proposed mast is outside the common land, that it must be on common land to which the school has no rights to.

4/ I am concerned that there would be great disruption to users of the path and to the presence of heavy site traffic on Richard Thorpe Avenue whilst the antenna was being installed. Have the contractors given any assurance that there would be no disruption? Should any planning consent unfortunately be awarded, I trust there will be adequate conditions placed on the contractor to prevent disruption.

I make these comments in the public interest but would like my name and address to be withheld from those outside of Kirklees Planning Department.