



Appeal Decision

Site visit made on 16 March 2020

by Diane Cragg DipTP MRTPI

an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State

Decision date: 9 April 2020

Appeal Ref: APP/M0655/D/19/3244012

162 Greenwood Crescent, Winwick, Warrington WA2 0EG

- The appeal is made under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 against a refusal to grant planning permission.
 - The appeal is made by Mr Andrew Taylor against the decision of Warrington Borough Council.
 - The application Ref 2019/35506, dated 28 July 2019, was refused by notice dated 1 November 2019.
 - The development proposed is 'erection and installation of a shortwave amateur radio aerial within the back garden of the property'.
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Decision

1. The appeal is allowed, and planning permission is granted for the erection and installation of a shortwave amateur radio aerial within the back garden of the property at 162 Greenwood Crescent, Winwick, Warrington WA2 0EG in accordance with the terms of the application, ref 2019/35506 dated 28 July 2019 subject to the following conditions:
 - 1) The development hereby permitted shall begin not later than 3 years from the date of this decision.
 - 2) The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans: plan number/project ID: TQRQM19209122437527 and drawing no sheet 1/1 – aerial sketch

Main Issue

2. The main issue is the effect of the development on the character and appearance of the area.

Reasons

3. The appeal site is a mid-terraced two storey house designed as part of a short terrace of properties with rear gardens facing towards Greenwood Crescent. Greenwood Crescent is a wide through route with properties generally set back from the road frontage. Notable areas of open green space and grass verges adjacent to the road give the area a spacious open character. There are frequent lampposts along the road which form part of the street scene.
4. The proposed black fibreglass amateur radio aerial would be located centrally within the rear garden of the appeal property. The appeal drawings indicate that the amateur aerial would be approximately 9.5 metres high and supported

by guy ropes. At my site visit the aerial was laid in the garden and I noted that the thickness of the aerial gradually reduces along its length.

5. I appreciate that the mast would be taller than adjacent buildings and that there are limited vertical elements in the street scene other than the existing streetlighting. Nevertheless, due to the aerial's slender design and materials, I consider that it would not be a significant feature of the street scene. Consequently, I do not consider that the structure would detract from the prevailing sense of openness within the street or detract from the area's character when viewed from the adjacent properties or from the street.
6. I accept that there is another mast attached to the rear elevation of the property, however, given the limited visual impact of the development I am satisfied that the proposed aerial would not result in 'visual clutter'.
7. For these reasons, I find that the aerial would not harm the character and appearance of the area and would accord with Policy QE7 of the Warrington Borough Council Local Plan Core Strategy adopted July 2014 which seeks to support proposals that do not damage the character of the area.

Other Matters

8. I acknowledge the neighbour's concern that the aerial may be of danger to birds particularly during a storm, however, I have no evidence before me that this would be the case.

Conditions

9. In addition to the standard timescale condition, I have imposed a condition specifying the relevant drawings as this provides certainty of the development for which permission is granted.

Conclusion

10. For the reasons given above, the appeal is allowed.

Diane Cragg

INSPECTOR