

APPENDIX PC7

Eventual reply 24.12.19 from Cheshire East to Clerk's email of 30.10.19

Dear Ms Ayres

Thank you for getting back to us.

The installation of telecom poles are classified as a statutory undertaking and as such is permitted development.

However, if there is a plan/photograph of the proposed location of the poles, Highways can make an informal comment.

If you take a photo from where the site notice has been put up please let us know the address of the nearby house so that we can establish the exact location.

Regards
Mr Earlin Smith

Email from member of public expressing concerns 17.12.19

Hi, Rob and Gill,

BT vehicles were in Westage Lane this morning and the 'proposed' 6 poles have been erected along the bendy section just outside our built up area. Gill tells me that she has received no response from West or East Cheshire to her enquiries to date and so, with her agreement, I rang Keith Cavanagh at BT, Liverpool – left him a message – and he has just returned my call – for which I thanked him.

I recalled expressing my concern to him six weeks ago that poles on bends, sited between hedge and tarmac, were a safety hazard because of the very short reaction time for approaching drivers to avoid a collision in so narrow a lane. I reminded him that he had said if that was so a site meeting would be needed – but that I hadn't heard of one occurring. In reply he said they had undergrounded a considerable length of the line (eastwards) and had to limit costs. *They would review the position if difficulties were experienced*, to which I said that the most likely circumstances would be a collision in which a vehicle hit a very unforgiving post, probably causing injuries. I added that, while clearly they had to go below ground near the 130k volt N-S overhead line, they were thereafter going underground along a straight, wider section of Westage Lane where poles would have sufficed. (There's more roadside width to dig in there I infer).

I said that I was ringing today was before any wires had been laid – adding that the Parish Council may well be expressing concerns.

While in touch I asked about connections within the village Conservation Area. I'm told they *will* be connecting below ground using existing conduit from the A599/High Street crossroads junction through to the pole at the Westage Lane/Heath Lane junction. I said that was very good news.