

The Lynns

26th April 2026

Turners Hill Road

Crawley Down

West Sussex

RH10 4HA

To the Planning Officer, Mid Sussex District Council

Proposed erection of Short-Wave Amateur Radio Mast and Aerials at The Lynns, Turners Hill Road, Crawley Down West Sussex, RH10 4HA

For my proposed application for planning permission in respect of the proposed erection of a 10.7 metre mast and transmitting and receiving aerials on my property at The Lynns, Turners Hill Road, Crawley Down, West Sussex, RH10 4HA,

I have passed the necessary technical examinations to enable me to hold an Office of Communications (Ofcom) licence

Amateur radio is a popular technical hobby that uses designated radio frequencies for non-commercial exchange of messages, wireless experimentation, self-training, and emergency communications. It is the only hobby governed by international treaty.

It is enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of people (men and women) across the UK and the world.

The maximum power levels used by radio amateurs are restricted by our licence conditions and are comparatively low. This requires extremely efficient aerials and height above the ground and surrounding buildings / structures is one of the most important factors contributing to the efficiency of the system.

In order to transmit and receive radio signals effectively, it is essential for the antennas to be above roof height. I have taken great care to ensure the antennas are no higher than necessary.

The Mast and Aerials

The mast is a telescopic 10.7m Standard "Tennamast".

It stands on a concrete slab of one cubic metre. It sits inside a steel sleeve within the slab, It is not permanently fixed to the ground

The mast is of a telescopic design that when extended is 10.7 metres tall and when retracted is 5.96 metres tall.

Attached to the top of the mast is a rotator within a housing, and above the rotator is a stub pole approximately 1.5m long.

The proposed antennas are fixed to the stub pole.

The mast installation has a tilting mechanism which allows any maintenance to be carried out at ground level thus removing any risk from having to work at height.

The tilting mechanism is only suitable for occasional maintenance use and not designed to be used regularly.

The mast (when required) would only be extended to its full height (10.7m) during use or for maintenance and would always be retracted (to 5.96m) when not in use

The horizontal antenna above the rotator is a Three-Element Yagi beam antenna and the upper vertical antenna is a 5/8 wave omnidirectional.

The horizontal antenna (Yagi) has a boom length of 2710 mm and the 3 side elements are of slightly differing lengths, with the longest being 5942 mm.

It weighs 4700 grams and has a wind resistance of 86 N at 150 km/h.

The horizontal antenna can rotate 360 degrees within a turning radius of 3300 mm.

The vertical antenna is 7360 mm long, including its bracket, and is approximately 25 mm in diameter at its thickest section at its base. It weighs 3000 grams, and has a wind resistance of 160 km/h.

Mast location

The installation is erected approximately 2 m away from the rear of my property in the back garden.

With respect to my neighbours, the mast and aerial installation have been sited close to the rear of my property to mitigate any visual impact to the surrounding area. It would be unfeasible for the installation to be completely hidden, but I hope you can accept that I have kept the visual appearance to a minimum,

The installation has no environmental impact such as pollution, or light reduction and does not produce noise, fumes or heat.

I do not live in a conservation area, a listed building or AONB

The neighbouring property to the left of my property, Kelso – the installation cannot be seen from their kitchen/living room windows.

The neighbouring property to the right of my property, Eastwood – the installation cannot be seen from any window

The properties (three) immediately behind my rear garden (Squires Close) – I have mitigated any view of the mast to the best of my ability by purposely keeping the rear hedge as high as possible (4.0 m) but still maintaining it with a neat appearance.

I do not have any neighbours (only woodland) outside the front of my property (west), and to the nearby north, there are an abundance of trees, mainly oak, beech, fir and silver birch.

The installation is standard equipment used by Amateurs throughout the world and I have enclosed copies of the mast / aerial manufacturer's leaflets giving details of dimensions etc.

Planning permission has been granted for many similar masts (and much larger towers) in the UK.

It is a condition of my licence to ensure that my antennas comply with EMF (electromagnetic field) exposure, which I have printed records of. This will ensure that my operating system is well within specified safe levels of EMF.

The purchase of the mast and the installation costs have been in the region of £2000.00. It will be realised that I would not have invested this amount unless I felt it essential to do so to improve the

efficiency of the system and to aid my knowledge / understanding and enjoyment of my legitimate hobby

Due to the experimental nature of the hobby, I would like to have the flexibility to change the antenna system from time to time without needing to apply for a further permission.

I would undertake not to install any antenna that would materially change the external appearance of the installation.

I would explore the possibility of "Planning personal to me" if the criteria would be suitable for my circumstances.

I trust that this letter and its enclosures provide you with adequate information in connection with my application. If there is anything further which you or the members of the planning committee require, or would find of assistance when considering my application, do please let me know.

Yours faithfully,

David Southam