

PLANNING

Civic Centre Marlowes Hemel Hempstead Herts HP1 1HH

WASTELL TELECOMS TROOPERS YARD 23 BANCROFT HITCHIN HERTS SG5 1JW

Applicant:

ORANGE PLC LTD TUDOR HOUSE 55 VICTORIA ROAD LONDON

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

APPLICATION - 4/01747/98/FUL

ASHRIDGE MANAGEMENT COLLEGE, ASHRIDGE, BERKHAMSTED, HERTS, HP4 1NS

20M TELECOMS POLE MAST WITH ASSOCIATED ANTENNA, RADIO CABINET AND COMPOUND

Your application for full planning permission dated 30 September 1998 and received on 05 October 1998 has been **REFUSED**, for the reasons set out overleaf.



Director of Planning

Date of Decision: 26 November 1998

REASONS FOR REFUSAL APPLICABLE TO APPLICATION: 4/01747/98/FUL

Date of Decision: 26 November 1998

- 1. The site is within the Rural Area, which is not to be regarded as one of availability for telecommunications development; permission will only be granted for new masts if it is satisfactorily demonstrated that a suitable alternative site either outside the area or having a less harmful visual impact is not available. The current proposal is incompatible with these policies as it has not been satisfactorily demonstrated that such an alternative site is not available.
- 2. Notwithstanding any technical argument as to the need for a mast in this location, greater weight should be placed on the need to protect the quality of the landscape in the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Neither additional landscaping nor painting of the mast will mitigate the damaging effects of this proposal.
- 3. The proposed mast will have a damaging effect on the setting of a Grade I listed building and on the character of the historic parkland by the introduction of an alien feature.
- 4. The proposal for a mast to provide improved telecommunications for one building is likely to set an undesirable precedent for other similar establishments and for similar provision by other operators leading to a proliferation of masts in the open countryside.

