The Birches

 2 Dingle Close

 Barry

 Vale of Glamorgan

 CF62 6QR

Planning Department

Docks Offices

Vale of Glamorgan Council

Barry

18 November 2016

**Planning Application ref. 2016/01274/PNT**

Dear Sirs

I wish to register my strong objection to this application, which is for a mobile phone mast on land at Bull Cliff, off Marine Drive, Barry.

My main objections are on the grounds of the site’s close proximity to the Marine Conservation Area and the Heritage Coastal Path. Despite being partially ‘hidden’ among the trees, the mast would, for operational reasons, have to be significantly higher than the trees and would cause harm to the Visual Amenity of an area of natural beauty. There is also potential harm to wildlife.

I also have concerns about the possible ill effects on human health. There appears to be no current scientific proof of harm, but it is also recognised that mobile technology is relatively new and further evidence may indicate otherwise in future. Also there are certainly anecdotal indications of cancers caused by mobile phones and masts. So close to a residential area – a risk to public health surely not worth taking.

In addition, I question the need for such a mast. According to a report in the Consumers’ Association magazine Which?, August 2016: “All the major networks now offer technological solutions that can help if you have a poor mobile signal at home. The simplest of these is free software. … An alternative option is to get your own mini phone mast, known as a ‘femtocell’. These piggyback on your home broadband network to improve your phone signal and can be used with any 3G compatible phone.

To sum up, the mast is not needed and the community do not want it.

I urge that this planning application is refused.