

Final Notification

Notification under section 49(4) of the Communications Act 2003

Decision by Daventry District Council in response to a proposal by British Telecommunications plc for the removal of public call boxes pursuant to Part 2 of the Schedule to a Direction published by Ofcom on 14 March 2006 ('the Direction').

1. Daventry District Council, in accordance with section 49(4) of the Communications Act 2003 ('the Act'), hereby make the following decision in response to a proposal by British Telecommunications plc for the removal of public call boxes pursuant to Part 2 of the Direction ("the First Notification").
2. The decision is set out in the schedule to this notification
3. The effect of, and Daventry District Council reasons for making, the decision is set out in the Schedule to this Notification.
7. Daventry District Council considers that the decision complies with the requirements of sections 45 to 50 of the Act, as appropriate and relevant to the proposals.
8. In making the final decision, Daventry District Council has considered and acted in accordance with the six community requirements in section 4 of the Act.
9. A copy of this Notification has been sent to the Secretary of state in accordance with section 50(1)(b) of the Act.
10. The Schedule to this Notification shall form part of this Notification.

Simon Bowers
Executive Director (Business), Daventry District Council
22nd November 2019

Schedule

Decision by Daventry District Council in response to a proposal by British Telecommunications plc for the removal of public call boxes pursuant to Part 2 of the Schedule to a Direction published by Ofcom on 14 March 2006 ('the Direction').

General Comments

The following Schedule provides Daventry District Council's (DDC) response to this BT consultation and is based on the comments received from individuals and parish councils and on the Council's own research.

Key to the Responses

The table below lists the boxes in parish order. This is a different order to the one included in the BT consultation letter

Column D sets out baseline information for the consideration of each box. It identifies:

- the type of box i.e. modern design or red K6 box
- if the box is listed
- if the box is within a conservation area
- if there is a Village Design Statement (VDS) and if so if it says anything about the box
- if there is a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and if so if it says anything about the box
- if there was any response from the Parish Council in 2016 or 2008 ('not included' indicates that the box did not form part of consultation in those years)

Column E makes an assessment of whether or not the box should be retained and includes comments from the parish council and local residents, and if there is any interest in adopting the box.

Column F sets out the final decision.

Conservation and General Issues

Red phone boxes are instantly recognisable internationally as an iconic design symbol of 20th century British architecture. The red K6 phone boxes were designed by the architect Sir Giles Gilbert Scott (1880-1960) and were produced in 1935 to commemorate the Silver

Jubilee of King George V. This model was the first public telephone to be installed nationwide. Gilbert-Scott is also famous for designing Battersea Power Station, Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, Cambridge University Library and orchestrating the repairs to the House of Commons following WWII bomb damage. As such, he is a very important British architect and preserving examples of his work, especially those as iconic as red phone boxes, is vitally important.

Due to the importance of the Red K6 phone boxes, the District Council objects to the removal of all of these within the District unless there are proposals by third parties to adopt them, thereby securing their future.

The District Council also reminds BT of the following planning policy context, which will apply where these issues are referred to in the Schedule table:

National Planning Policy Framework:

190. Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise any conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.

193. When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance.

West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy:

BN5 designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings will be conserved and enhanced in recognition of their individual and cumulative significance and contribution to west Northamptonshire's local distinctiveness and sense of place.

In environments where valued heritage assets are at risk, the asset and its setting will be appropriately conserved and managed.

Schedule of Responses

A	B	C	D	E	F
Telephone Number	Address	Post Code	Type/Listed/Cons Area VDS/NP	Comments/Reasons	Response to BT
01327 262202	BYFIELD PCO KIOSK 62202 THE GREEN	NN11 6UT	Modern design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – Yes but no specific mention of telephone box. NDP - No 2016 – Objected. 2008 – Not included	<p>This is a box of modern design located on the village green.</p> <p>It has continued to have significantly more usage than other rural phones – 33 calls in the last year, suggesting that it has an important social use and should be retained.</p> <p>The Parish Council has previously objected to the loss of the phone and has asked that BT replace the existing modern box with the traditional red K6 box to help retain the historic look of the village.</p>	OBJECT BT is strongly urged to agree to the parish council request to replace the box with a traditional box
01604 880348	BRIXWORTH PCO KIOSK 880348 OS COUNCIL BUILDINGS SPRATTON ROAD	NN6 9DS	Modern design In Conservation Area. VDS – Yes but no specific mention of this telephone box. NDP – Yes but no specific mention of telephone box. 2008 – Parish Council objected.	<p>This is a modern design box, which lies within the Conservation Area.</p> <p>This box is situated in the centre of the village, which has a population of 5162 (2001 census). It is next to the village's shops and other services, such as the library and community centre.</p> <p>It had 49 calls from it last year and therefore it is considered that this box should be retained, as it is providing a meaningful service to the local community.</p> <p>The parish council supports the Councils objection.</p>	OBJECT

A	B	C	D	E	F
Telephone Number	Address	Post Code	Type/Listed/Cons Area VDS/NP	Comments/Reasons	Response to BT
01604505711	COTTESBROOKE PCO PCO 1 MAIN STREET	NN6 8PH	K6 In Conservation Area. VDS – No NDP – No Parish Council – No response 2016 – No response	This is a red K6 box, in a prominent location in the centre of the village, within the conservation area and by the old post office. An application to list the box was made to Historic England but this was not successful. It is understood that the local community is looking to adopt the box. If this occurs the Council would not object. However if adoption does not occur, the Council would object to the removal of this box.	Agree subject to the box being adopted by the local community – otherwise OBJECT
01604505411	CREATON PCO KIOSK 411 0/S TELE.EXCH. WELFORD ROAD NORTHAMPTON	NN6 8NH	Modern Design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – Yes but no specific mention of telephone box. NDP – Area designated 2016 – Responded 2008 – Objected	This is a box of modern design and has not been used in the last year. When consulted in 2016, the Parish Council made the observation that the phone was disconnected and if this is still the case could explain why there are no recorded calls in the latest year.	OBJECT unless BT can provide evidence that lack of calls has not been caused by the phone being disconnected.
01327 702476	DAVENTRY PCO KISOK 702476 THAMES ROAD/GRANGE ESTATE THE CHERWELL	NN11 4QL	Modern Design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – Yes but no specific mention of telephone box. NDP – No 2016 – Not included 2008 – Not included	This is a modern design in a residential area and has been used 24 times in the last year, suggesting that there is some social need for this facility. The Town Council has commented that it would be wise to retain this box to maintain a reasonable distribution across the town and reflecting the fact	OBJECT

A	B	C	D	E	F
Telephone Number	Address	Post Code	Type/Listed/Cons Area VDS/NP	Comments/Reasons	Response to BT
				that there is a need for a box in this area to facilitate calls to the emergency services.	
01327 702862	DAVENTRY PCO KIOSK 702862 TRAFALGAR WAY	NN11 4LY	Modern Design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – Yes but no specific mention of telephone box. NDP – No 2016 – not included 2008 – not included	This is a modern design in a residential area and has been used 61 times in the last year, suggesting that there is a social need for this facility. The Town Council supports the Council's position	OBJECT
01327 703271	DAVENTRY PCO KIOSK 703271 GRANGE ESTATE WAVENEY CLOSE	NN11 4PY	Modern design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – Yes but no specific mention of telephone box. NDP – No 2016 – No response 2008 – Not included	This is a modern design in a residential area and has been used 17 times in the last year, reduced from 103 calls in 2016. Given the low number of calls its removal can be agreed to. The Town Council supports the Council's position	Agree
01327 703294	DAVENTRY ADMIRALS WAY PCO 1 HOOD ROAD	NN11 4JT	Modern design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – Yes but no specific mention of telephone box. NDP – No 2016 – No response 2008 – Not included	This is a modern design in a residential area and has been used 33 times in the last year. Whilst this has reduced from the 262 calls in 2016, it still suggests that there is still some social need for this facility. However recognising that there is a box not too far away, on balance this box could be removed. The Town Council has commented that this box could be removed and there would still be a reasonable	Agree

A	B	C	D	E	F
Telephone Number	Address	Post Code	Type/Listed/Cons Area VDS/NP	Comments/Reasons	Response to BT
				distribution across the town, thus supporting this position.	
01327 349813	<p>FLORE PCO KIOSK 40352 HIGH STREET</p> <p>(The address above was provided by BT, but the box appears to be on Sutton Street)</p>	NN7 4LL	Modern design In Conservation Area. VDS – No mention of telephone boxes NDP – No mention of telephone boxes 2016 - Not included 2008 – Not included	<p>This is a modern design in a residential area and has been used only once in the last year.</p> <p>The Parish Council supports the Council's position.</p>	Agree
01327 842256	<p>LONG BUCKBY PCO KIOSK 842256 O/S LIBRARY MARKET PLACE</p>	NN6 7RR	Modern design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – No mention of telephone boxes NDP – No 2016 - Not included 2008 – Not included	<p>This is a modern design adjacent the village centre and residential areas and has been used 71 times in the last year suggesting that there is a social need for this facility.</p> <p>The Parish Council supports the Council's objection.</p>	OBJECT
01327 842375	<p>LONG BUCKBY PCO STATION ROAD NORTHAMPTON</p>	NN6 7QA	Modern design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – No mention of telephone boxes NDP – No 2016 – Objected 2008 – Objected	<p>This is a modern design in a residential area and has been used 22 times in the last year. Whilst this has reduced from the 46 calls in 2016, it still suggests that there is still some social need for this facility. Given its relatively close proximity to the railway station it should be retained.</p> <p>The Parish Council supports the Council's objection.</p>	OBJECT

A	B	C	D	E	F
Telephone Number	Address	Post Code	Type/Listed/Cons Area VDS/NP	Comments/Reasons	Response to BT
01327 842538	LONG BUCKBY PCO KIOSK 842538 WHARF NORTHAMPTON	NN6 7PW	K6 Not in Conservation Area but within setting of listed building. VDS – No mention of telephone boxes NDP – No Parish Council – Objected 2008 – Objected	This is a red K6 box. It has not been used in the last year. In 2016, the Parish Council considered the phone box to be a valuable asset to Buckby Wharf, close to the Grand Union canal, West Coast railway line, M1 and A5. They reported that there was little mobile phone signal in this area and they felt that this kiosk should not be taken away. Should the equipment be removed, the Parish Council would consider adopting the box. The Parish Council supports the Councils objection.	OBJECT
01604 686214	MAIDWELL PCO KIOSK 214 OPP PARISH HALL HARBOROUGH ROAD NORTHAMPTON	NN6 9JA	Modern design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – No NDP – No 2016 – Objected 2008 – Objected	This is a modern design and has had no usage in the last year. The Parish Council has no objections to the removal of the box.	Agree
01604 505821	TEETON PCO KIOSK 821 NR BANK COTTAGES BANK COTTAGES	NN6 8LL	Modern design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – no specific mention NDP - No 2016 – No response 2008 – Not included	This is a modern design and has had no usage in the last year. The Parish Council has indicated that the mobile coverage has been improved in recent years, the kiosk is in a poor state of cleanliness and appears non-operational already. It	Agree

A	B	C	D	E	F
Telephone Number	Address	Post Code	Type/Listed/Cons Area VDS/NP	Comments/Reasons	Response to BT
				does not object to the removal of the phone.	
01604 781211	WALGRAVE PCO KIOSK 781211 HANNINGTON LANE	NN6 9QG	Modern design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – no mention of telephone box NDP – No 2016 – No objection 2008 – Object	This is a modern design and has been used only four times in the last year. A local resident has indicated that mobile reception has improved recently. Given the low number of calls its removal can be agreed to.	Agree
01327 349851	WEEDON PCO KIOSK 40229 OP X-RDS HOTEL WATLING STREET	NN7 4QG	Modern design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – No mention of telephone box NDP – No 2016 – Not included 2008 – Not included	This is a modern design and has only been used 9 times in the last year. The Parish Council and two local residents support the Council's position.	Agree
01858575374	WELFORD PCO PCO 1 WEST STREET	NN6 6HU	Modern design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – No NDP – No mention of telephone box 2016 – Not included 2008 – Not included	This is a modern design and has only been used 17 times in the last year. The Parish Council has indicated that it intends to adopt the box for community purposes.	Agree
01327 842305	WHILTON LOCKS PCO KIOSK 842305 WHILTON LOCKS	NN11 2NH	Modern design Not in Conservation Area.	This is a modern design and has had no usage in the last year.	OBJECT

A	B	C	D	E	F
Telephone Number	Address	Post Code	Type/Listed/Cons Area VDS/NP	Comments/Reasons	Response to BT
			VDS – No specific mention of this box NDP – No 2018 – Objected 2008 – Objected	In 2016, the Parish Council stated that they considered the phone box to be a valuable asset to Whilton Locks, close to the Grand Union canal, West Coast railway line, M1 and A5. They reported that there was little mobile phone signal in this area and they feel that this kiosk should not be taken away. In 2016 DDC objected.	
01327 262286	WOODFORD HALSE PCO KIOSK 62286 HINTON GREEN HINTON ROAD	NN11 3TR	Modern design Not in Conservation Area. VDS – No NDP – Policy WH10 states that the box will be protected for community based uses. 2016 – Not included 2008 – Objected	This is a modern design and has only been used 14 times in the last year. The Parish Council acknowledge that 'times have changed' and support the Council's position.	Agree