



MINUTES

SUPER FAST BROADBAND MEETING MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2017 held at the Tilford Village Institute (Centenary Room)

Cllrs Relf (Chair), Mack (Vice Chair), Warr, Lee, Harmer (SCC) Adams (WBC) R Audsley (Clerk) and 29 members of the public

Cllr Relf welcomed everyone and stated the purpose of this meeting was to establish how many individuals within the village are struggling with their Broadband and to get feedback.

There are three green boxes servicing Tilford residents that are located at Crooksbury Rd/Waverley Lane, Grange Road and opposite the Post Office in Frensham. The further away from the box the weaker the signal as well as being dependent on cabling issues with historic materials used.

The weakest parts of the village are between the East to West bridge. West bridge towards Reeds Road and up towards the Tennis Courts.

Telephone numbers starting with the prefix of 78 come from Crooksbury Rd and those starting 79 are split between Grange Rd and Frensham.

Cllr Harmer gave a brief history of the decision to roll out SFBB. Approximately six years ago when BT decided to roll out SFBB, Surrey County Council understood this would become an issue for more rural areas and their communities.

To roll out this programme, it has cost Surrey County Council £20million, BT £15million and Central Government £1.5million for Openreach to supply places that didn't have SFBB by normal commercial activity and they have managed to achieve 94.5% coverage of all residential properties in Surrey.

As part of the deal, the higher the take up, Surrey County Council are able to claw back funds. Forty two percent take up sum is to be used in the second tranche of the roll out. Out of the 600 homes within the Western Villages currently due within this tranche, 2% of the remaining 5.5% will be covered to receive SFBB.

Phase 1 is up to Christmas and Phase 2 later end of next year or not at all. The service will depend on what technology is available to which post code. Surrey County Council is awaiting feedback from BT on which they decide just after Christmas, but this is the current state of play.

Cllr Relf read out feedback from two residents unable to join the meeting, one at Reeds Rd who receive 7-9mbs and one on the village green receiving 1.7mb which is an improvement from 0.3mb after a lightning strike.

He went on to ask the room for their feedback of which a summary is at the end of these minutes, but did ask for those not present to feedback their name, location and speed to

clerk@tilfordpc.org.uk



Cllr Harmer stated that for every kilometre away from the green box, 50% is lost.

One resident has recently spent money on having a privately installed cable by Adrian of Broadband Fix to achieve 4G which consists of two wavebands under licence to achieve a higher speed by broadcasting simultaneously on both bands at the same time, however you are required to purchase data on top similar to a mobile phone contract. This then utilizes an external antenna which is stronger and faster.

This would cost in the region of £400 – 600 for each system installed and a contract period of your choosing, but suggested no more than 30 day contract so if BT were to come along with fibre or ADSL2 or repair some of the cables it would be easy to terminate.

Cllr Harmer went on to discuss a development whereby they purchased their own box as due to lack of speed, were looking to lose up to 10% of their house value at resale. It took just over two years of planning and negotiations to install their box at a cost of £120k, £1k from each household which equated to 1% of their house value to guarantee fast speed and no loss to overall home value.

Cllr Relf asked for a show of hands how many would be willing to pay, if it guaranteed a 40mb speed. Just over half the room raised their hand. Only 7 people were prepared to sit and wait until late next year for BT.

It was agreed by majority, the next step should be to conduct an independent survey to specify a proposal for a new box, where best to situate (the old toilets were suggested), how much it would cost overall and the guaranteed benefit for each household.

Cllr Relf asked for volunteers to set up a working party to review such options and report back to the village. The working party will consist of Mr Rob Lee and Mr Andrew Coyle, both residents and one Council member (TBC)

Feedback received by those in attendance

Tilford Street next to shop – 0.8 download, 0.3 upload
Opposite shop – 0.8 download, 0.1 upload
Whitmead Lane (village end) 1.9 downloads, but worse on a Sunday
Rushmoor Straight near to shop 0.8 to possibly 2
Squires Hill 12.4
West Bridge – 0.3 download, 0.1 upload, but now with 4G speed of 15
Tilford Institute 3.72
Near Tennis Courts 0.8/0.2

It was felt that weather and time of the day also had a significant effect on speed.

Further outcomes of the working party will be reported in the Parish Council minutes when available and by separate publication on our website and Tilford Facebook page.

Cllr Relf thanks all those for taking the time to attend and feedback. Meeting closes at 9pm.