



South West Chilterns Community Board – Broadband Workstream – Meeting Notes

Date/Time: Tuesday 20 April 2021 at 1600hrs via MS Teams

1. Present

Cllr Mark Turner - Chair

Cllr David Johncock

Cllr Mike Appleyard

Cllr Alex Collingwood

Cllr Roger Wilson

Cllr Mark Harris

Sue Hynard – Office of Steve Baker MP

Dominic John

James Robinson – Bucks LEP

Jackie Binning – North West Chilterns Community Board Coordinator

Alan Frost – representation from North West Chilterns Community Board

Makyla Devlin – South West Chilterns Community Board Coordinator

2. Apologies

Cllr Chris Whitehead

Cllr Julia Langley

Cllr Julia Adey

Jacqueline Ford

3. Notes and actions from previous meeting(s)

Action	Date	Holder	Timescale	Update
Utilise the skills of MP's Joy Morrissey and Steve Baker through their representatives to stress the importance of this provision in our Board Area and look at any possible further funding steams available.	12/10/20	Sue Hynard Aleksandra Turner	Continual	Continual

4. Introduction – Cllr Mark Turner

Welcome

Thank you for attending today's meeting. May I please remind participants that we are currently in a pre-election period, commonly known as Purdah. Local Elections for Buckinghamshire Council, Town and Parish Councils and the Police and Crime Commissioner will take place on 6th May 2021, and the Council is required to take particular care over publicity in the period before the election to ensure that there is no appearance of support for any particular party or individual seeking election.

The Council can continue to carry out business as usual, which means that this subgroup can continue as normal, but could we please ask individuals standing for election to take extra care to ensure they are not perceived to be using Council business for publicity purposes, including on social media. For more information, please refer to the Pre-Election (Purdah) guidance, the Members handbook or consult Democratic Services.



5. New Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme (RGVS) and Project Gigabit

The new Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme (RGVS) started again on 8th April. There are very few revisions. Voucher values remain the same. Postcodes must be F20 in Ofcom Area 3 where it is anticipated there will be fewer commercial alternatives to Openreach. There are several commercial organisations newly registered with the new scheme who are looking to expand in Buckinghamshire using the RGVS. These include F&W, Home Counties Fibre and Swish.

6. Update on Schemes

Lane End

Scheme is still as previously mentioned and have set up a project team. They have gone to tender and Phase one tenders are in with the exception of Openreach who are supplying a revised quote to include the whole of the Lane End Exchange area. Other bids have been received from F&W, HCF (strange one), Swish. Voneus sadly declined to quote. Others also were approached but had no plans for working in Bucks in the current timeframe.

HCF have quoted to connect many other villages including Hambleton, however at this stage it will be important to check the postcodes to ensure they are not cherry picking which could leave some rural outreaches behind.

Turville

A scheme has been created and costs are awaited from Openreach in the first instance. Hoping for a separate cost for just Turville itself to get things running. Then Northend Turville Heath Southend as Phase two, but a lot will depend on Openreach pricing.

Medmenham

Scheme start and registered and pricing awaited from Openreach. There is also interest from Swish. I put them in touch with the owners of Harleyford Golf Club with the hope that a soft dig may lessen costs to enable them to look at better viability. I have a meeting with them at 6pm tonight to discuss further – update at next meeting.

Fawley Court Farm

Fawley Court Farm were omitted from Fawley build plans as they objected to the cost when being close to an FTTC cabinet as they received good speeds. They are realising it may have been a mistake not to join in as lockdown has seen their speeds plummet at times. I am discussing a small project with the 7 homes but nothing advanced to Openreach yet who will be the only likely resource.

- **Swish Update**

Swish have now agreed that to connect all the way up to Fynamore, nr Frieth. This is good news. Fynamore, as you may know is 'not spot'

- **Instalcom**

Continue to dig in Frieth and there are plans for other areas together with Swish. They have promised to work alongside the Council in a more pre-planned way and not "winging" it as they apparently have been.

Question from Cllr Mike Appleyard – is there any news on change or improvement in the Hedsor area – response from Cllr Mark Turner – nothing specific. Still thinking about going further into Hedsor. Their postcode is in area 2 and not eligible for the gigabit scheme. Might need to speak to BDUK and see if that a be changed.

Cllr Mike Appleyard – would like to see that happen. Paul and Dominic are keen to get some movement there – *Response from James Robinson – there are no ways of challenging postcode as things are being done in this way. In next 3 to 4 months, Bucks will be completed. The classifications in area 2 and 3 will be reviewed.*

Question from Sue Hynard – a number of residents in Bovingdon Green have spoken to Steve Baker MP. Is it possible to say Swish could be pushing through this area? *response from Cllr Mark Turner- Yes. Bovingdon Green – Fynamore.*

Sue Hynard – I will draft a response to Steve Baker and liaise with you and Cllr Alex Collingwood prior to sending.

Cllr Alex Collingwood – I have spoken to Officers and Highways will offer an alternative way round it and will use BT poles to get to Fynamore Wood – this is Swish. Until there is a connection at Bovingdon Green, cant move onto Fynamore Wood. Looking to have a meeting in next couple of weeks and then push onto Frieth. We are working closely with them and hope to have an answer before we next meet.

7. Any Other Business

Question from Cllr Alex Collingwood – to James – announcement today for 5G mast rollout. Is there any info from BDUK and providers. *Response from James – nothing has been said as of yet.*



Cllr Mark Turner - 4G/5GMasts. 15 meter tall 'Monopole' masts with no permission needed in 'protected areas'. Just need to inform the local authority through normal planning process which allows people and opportunity to object.

Cllr David Johncock – the comment regarding planning, there was one just South of the M40 which received objections due to being in AONB. Need to identify the policy and implications

Cllr Mark Harris – the mast in Hambleden. The reason regarding the location of this was due to usage required by the emergency services to use. This makes objections and arguments difficult when this rationale is applied.

Cllr Mark Turner – 5G need more masts. 4G are smaller. In the future, they could be hidden in street furniture (street lights) etc. In most areas, masts are 30m and in protected areas they are 25m. All subject to full planning permission through the local authority.



Mast Information 20
April notes.docx

8. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 9 June @ 1600 via MS Teams