

## ***Broadwas must not miss out on the chance to have full fibre broadband***

*We have an opportunity to get a government grant to get faster broadband ( a full fibre connection from the green box or cabinet to your house). Not only would this give better speeds which has been so important this last year, but it will have the knock on effect of increasing the value of your house and or help your business*

### **Community Fibre Partnership - Full fibre connection to premises**

#### ***Last chance?***

Thanks to a government grant funding scheme we have the opportunity to have fibre connections to premises installed across the parish. The present fund has closed but we are still eligible as we applied before the closing date. Recently the Chancellor announced he was significantly reducing funding for the roll out of fibre connections, so it is likely to be some years before we have this opportunity again.

#### ***We need more people to sign up***

So far we have 30 business and residential premises signed up, out of 120 premises. We don't need all 120, but we do need more people to sign up. The way the scheme works is that Openreach provide a cost for instillation (£149,120.00) and for every sign up the Government will provide a voucher to the value of £1500 for a residential address and £3500 for a business. Thanks to Worcestershire County Council they have made available a top up scheme which will double the value of vouchers. So at this moment we have vouchers to the value of £55000.00 which when doubled leaves a short fall of £39120 which equates to the need to get further sign ups to the value of £19560.00. If these were just residential then this would be another 13 residential premises. If we can exceed this figure then this releases some of the WCC top up fund for other schemes.

#### ***Most people in Broadwas village have good speeds already but full fibre has other benefits***

For many but all who live in Broadwas they are fortunate to have very good speeds via their copper cable from the local green boxes that are connected to the fibre network. Also people use the internet differently and some people not at all. People may know that the government aim is for everyone to have full fibre eventually, as this offers greater speeds, increased capacity and is more reliable. There is increasing evidence that communities without full fibre in the future, will have lower property values than those with, and for businesses and those who work from home the increased speeds and reliability are already seen as essential.

#### ***Theres no such thing as a free lunch - signing up involves a time limited (12 months) cost to upgrade with your service provider, the cost to install across 120 addresses is £149000.00***

For those who step forward and sign up there is a small cost, as you are required to take up the full fibre service for 12 months, after that you can step down. Most of the major service providers are either a part of or will be shortly the Openreach suppliers network so it is less likely that you will need to change supplier, and the cost differential is reducing as

more people become connected through fibre. Typically the difference can be as little as £10 a month for 12 months up to £25 +. (NB these are approximate figures as everyone's needs are different and suppliers' costs vary)

The average cost of installation if it was not funded by government and WCC would be £1242.66, however this is an average and if for example you live a mile from the nearest green box and away from other premises then the cost if you were paying would be far greater.

***This opportunity may not come along again anytime soon***

This is likely to be the last chance for sometime to ensure that Broadwas joins the 15% of the country connected by full fibre, and in terms of rural communities the figure is far lower than 15% coverage. If we are able to proceed then Broadwas will join a small but hopefully growing number of rural communities who will have a future proofed fibre connection for calls and broadband.

It might be that this is not a priority for you at the moment, but if you do feel you can step forward and make a small financial commitment it will be a big contribution to the community and the long term future of the village

If we can reach the target with the WCC top up fund we can enter into a contract with Openreach who will undertake to deliver within 12 months.

***I'm up for it what do I do next?***

***Please ask for or fill in the sign up document and e mail or send /drop of to***

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***You can download a form here <https://www.broadwas-cotheridge.com/projects>  
(Its the last one of the 4)***