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Subject: Superfast Broadband
Resent-From: clerk.easttisted@parish.hants.gov.uk
Date: Thu, 4 Mar 2021 14:18:16 +0000
From: Oppenheimer, Cllr R <Russell.Oppenheimer@hants.gov.uk>
To: clerk.easttisted@parish.hants.gov.uk

Dear Clerks,

I would be very grateful if you could forward this message to Parish Councillors please.

Since I was elected in 2017 Superfast Broadband has been a major issue across Petersfield Hangers. The pandemic has further increased the focus on this topic with so many of us working from home. Many Parishes have benefited from upgrades over the last four years. This has mostly involved Fibre to the Cabinet but has also included Fibre to the Premises in Froxfield and Colemore. I am pleased that Community Fibre Partnerships are underway in Privett, Liss and Empshott which will bring FTTP to more residents.

However I am very conscious that several hundred residents still have broadband that is too slow.

Today the HCC Policy & Resources Committee heard presentations from the Superfast Broadband Team and from Openreach. It was a good session and I think the Committee did a reasonably good job of scrutinising the situation.

Some Parish Councillors with a particular interest in this issue may find it interesting to watch the proceedings at this link (starting at 21 mins). I asked a question at 1.44 hrs about boosting speeds to Cabinets. Annoyingly Openreach do not seem to believe this is possible. We have to hope that the DCMS "Outside In" process will come to this part of Hampshire.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mYeMEkcHNPI>

I was also interested to note that 4G will be available in most places by the end of next year, with 5G everywhere three years later. This will open up the possibility of mobile broadband for many rural residents as an interim measure until full fibre is available to all.

Thanks & Best Regards,

Russell

RJ Oppenheimer
County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers
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