



Connecting Ashendon

Ashendon Broadband - Connecting Ashendon

Report Date: Monday 1st May 2017

**By: Sian Miller (Ashendon Parish Council Lead) and David Crwys-Williams
(Connecting Ashendon CIC, Chair and Treasurer)**

Key Achievements

Connecting Ashendon CIC has paid the first installment of £32,892 to BT Openreach. The funds are in place for the second installment - due on completion of the project. Any additional monies raised in the interim period will be used to rebate villagers who pledged, and paid, generously to ensure the project could go ahead.

Here is a summary of funding:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| • 48 Households in Ashendon Village: | £ 25,224 |
| • St. Mary's Church, Ashendon: | £ 1,000 |
| • Red Lion Social Club: | £ 500 |
| • Waddesdon Local Area Forum (LAF): | £ 6,000 |
| • Children's Film Night: | £ 195 |
| • The Hundred of Ashendon Broadband Menu: | £ 563 |
| • Cake Extravaganza: | £ 355 |

Phase 2:

- Better Broadband Vouchers: £31,150
- Ashendon Parish Council: will fund any outstanding balance remaining

Congratulations to Ashendon - we were given a month to raise the funds and, thanks to a strong Working Group and an amazing community we rose to, and achieved, the challenge.

The Working Group: Cllr. Sian Miller (Lead - Ashendon Parish Council); David Crwys-Williams; Peter Johnson; Kelvin White; Matthew Howgate; Sue Maldonado; Pietro Ranieri

Connecting Ashendon CIC Directors: David Crwys-Williams; Kelvin White; Pietro Ranieri

We are in negotiation with Thames Water regarding a goodwill contribution following their poorly managed water main replacement that led to the closure of our main village road for over 6 months.

We await a response to our grant application for £10,000 from the Rothschild Foundation
We await formal confirmation of receipt from BT Openreach and further details of what happens next.

Questions and Answers Raised in the Community

Q. What if BT Openreach fail to deliver within 12 months?

- A. The project must be complete by 17th March 2018 as most of the second installment will be paid by the government via the Better Broadband Voucher Scheme. We are advised by BT Community Broadband that this will be achieved.

Q. Can we ask for quote to install a third cabinet (near the church) to improve speeds in Lower End, Forge Close and Brick Hill?

- A. This will be raised with our Community Broadband contact and, as soon as we have one a BT Openreach Technical contact.