

LATEST UPDATE ON OPENREACH'S 'SUPERFAST' BROADBAND SOLUTIONS PLEASE PASS ON TO NEIGHBOURS WHO CAN ALSO BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE UPDATES

From Peter O'Sullivan, Meonstoke

(I have no vested financial, or any other interest, in any of the broadband solutions or providers; and am not qualified to advise on what you should do)

Two types of 'superfast' Openreach broadband are now happening in our villages

Openreach provides the infrastructure on which superfast (or existing super-slow) broadband & telephone lines are delivered by your chosen provider

- **FTTP (Fibre to the Premise)**; up to 330Mbps upload & download; no distance-degradation
- **FTTC (Fibre to the Cabinet)**; and then using existing copper & aluminium cable); up to 80 Mbps download; less for download; with degradation dependent on distance from the cabinet

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO UPGRADE – BUT ITS WORTH CHECKING IT OUT

What speed do I need? See attached image from this WHICH article - <https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/broadband-deals/article/what-broadband-speed-do-i-need>

See examples below this email of residents in Meonstoke (first out of the blocks) who are already gaining benefit from 'superfast' broadband; and in some cases saving cost

STATUS / OUTLOOK – check where you stand, and what to do next (when 'superfast is accepting orders') at <https://www.homeandbusiness.openreach.co.uk/fibre-broadband/when-can-i-get-fibre>

FTTP Solution - :

- The attached PDF file lists the premises (residential, business or community), in or near our villages, to which Openreach is aiming to build a 100% fibre solution (no dependency on existing copper or aluminium)
- Timing; some property owners are already able to order this premium solution; for others listed in the attached spreadsheet it

is imminent

- (But Openreach make no promises; you only know, when you know)
- If your property is NOT listed in the attached tables, you are NOT in plan to receive an FTTP solution
- ... But may be in plan for an FTTC solution

FTTC Solution - There are four cabinets being built & then activated, in our villages

- CABINET 4 – activated just before Christmas, 2017 – located at The Pound, Meonstoke; junction of Pound Lane, Rectory Lane, Bucks Head Hill & High Street
‘superfast is accepting orders’ now
- CABINET 3 – to be located during half-term (w/b 12th February) outside Meonstoke School; ‘superfast will be probably be accepting orders’ by March 2018
- CABINET 5 – to be located on Warnford Road, near-opposite Meonstoke Post Office & Stores; ‘superfast will be probably be accepting orders’ by March 2018
- CABINET 6 – to be located on land on Union lane, Droxford; ‘superfast will probably be accepting orders by March’

If you want to know if / when you are in scope for an FTTC ‘superfast’ solution, I suggest you regularly check the Openreach checker (link above).

You are probably in scope for an FTTC ‘superfast’ solution if, when you put your details into the Openreach checker (above) you get one of the following responses.

- IN SCOPE - you're in a plan to get Superfast fibre but we haven't started work yet; it'll be built either as part of our fibre programme or through a partnership with your local authority, or
- SUPERFAST ACCEPTING ORDERS, or
- One of the intermediary stages, between the previous two

If you have an opportunity for FTTC, unless you are very close to the cabinet, the download speed you will get will degrade by distance – along the road, not as the crow flies; see the following table (also attached as a JPG file)

| FTTC broadband distance-speed degradation | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|----------------|------|-------|------|-------|
| Table Showing impact on download speed (Equivalent impact on upload from maximum of 25 Mbps) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Distance from cabinet / Mbps | Dist | Speed | Dist | Speed | Dist | Speed | Dist | Speed | Dist | Speed | Dist | Speed |
| 'Superfast' = 24Mbps+ | 0 | 80 | 200 | 60 | 400 | 50 | 600 | 35 | 800 | 30 | 1000 | 24 |
| Improved but below 'superfast' | 1200 | 15 | 1500 | 12 | | | | No improvement | | | 1800 | 0 |

Examples of residents / businesses upgrading to 'superfast' broadband

FTTC (Fibre to the Cabinet) from Cabinet 4 on The Pound
(junction of Bucks Head Hill, Pound Lane & Rectory Lane)

Stocks Lane, Meonstoke, 28th December 2017: *"Pleased to report I've just upgraded to fibre with SKY. There is a deal on at the moment and so the 'unlimited' package (39-40mbps) is £8.99 per month + an initial £10 activation fee. Hard to believe but with this deal I'll actually be paying less per month!!!! They inform me that my new speed will kick in within the next two weeks.*

"Again, thanks for all your help, and keeping us informed"

High Street, Meonstoke, 22nd December 2017:

"Thank you for the news"

"I've just tried to order BT Infinity 1 on line by working through the BT site and it shows a monthly charge of £29.99. On proceeding to confirm order, it says this is not available and the price is £52.99.

"On calling BT, they say the lower price is for new customers and not available to existing ones! I've told them this is immoral and that I will not be proceeding.

"After 45 minutes on the phone to BT, I've got infinity 1 for an extra £10 per month, £50 setup fee and £9.99 for a new hub. BT's pricing is a nightmare and website is a mess.

"I've got to have a new hub first then it can take up to 5 days. So I imagine it'll be in the new year.

I should get 52Mb/s ad 9 upload, I think."

...and then on 18th January 2018 "High speed broadband (BT Infinity) installed today! Download 41meg; upload 9meg. At least 12 times faster." Not bad, eh?

High Street, Meonstoke, 15th January 2018

I haven't got it yet but should have on 22nd January.

BT forecast is 54/55 Mbps download/upload 9/10

I could not get an offer using the on-line arrangement but used an on-line chat that was OK but not ideal.

I am already on a BT router but they insist I need a new one that has arrived but remains on my desk for the moment. I am rather hoping I don't need it.

Thanks for the helpful emails.”

Fry's Lane, Meonstoke, 17th January 2018

“Thought you might be interested that FTTC (cabinet on The Pound) works for us.”

Pound Lane, Meonstoke, 18th January 2018

“Upgraded today - BT Infinity.

“Download Speed Test Yesterday – 4.38 Mbps

“ & today – 32.15 (x 7.3 faster)”

End of Newsletter email

I hope you find this helpful