

Alvingham and North Cockerington
Broadband Meeting
7th March 2017

Summary

1. The meeting was attended by Steven Brookes from On Lincolnshire, a division of Lincolnshire County Council set up to improve broadband services across Lincolnshire.
2. On Lincolnshire has a multi million pound budget which is being used to bring superfast broadband into rural areas in phases. See www.onlincolnshire.org for further information.
3. All postcodes in Alvingham are said to be included in the early part of Phase 3. This work which it is hoped will be carried out in approximately 12 months time will see a new fibre cabinet sited much closer to the village and promises to bring download speeds of 30 to 50 Mbps.
4. On Lincolnshire will not spend money on the existing BT infrastructure. The existing cables are aluminium and are starting to disintegrate due to their age. This is thought to be the cause of the majority of the issues being faced by the village.
5. We need to present a case as a community showing hard evidence that there is a problem which BT/Open Reach need to address. On Lincolnshire will support us in this and Victoria Atkin MP is on board too. However it needs to be backed up by hard evidence of the problems being faced by the residents in terms of promised speeds not being delivered, service dropping out etc. As well as showing the effect the impaired broadband service has on individual lifestyles, the ability to run a business or work from home etc.
6. To this end the attached survey is being circulated which we are hoping as many residents as possible will complete. We will collate the information and write collectively to BT/ Open Reach on behalf of the community to complain that they are not delivering the service expected or promised.
7. There are a number of basic self help measures that can be used to rule out internal configurations being the cause of the difficulties (see attached).
8. There is a government subsidy of £350 available to households that have speeds under 2mbps. The money can be used towards the cost of alternate methods of obtaining broadband such as satellite broadband. This may be an option for the far outlying properties such as those at the far end of Highbridge Road. Consideration should be given to the possibility of the community that qualify for this subsidy pooling their subsidies and working with on Lincolnshire to provide a more effective solution.