

KINGSLEY BROADBAND UPDATE

October 2017

We apologise for not being able to bring you any broadband news for the past 10 months during which we:

- were let down by Pine Media (a long story that's no longer relevant);
- tried but failed to find another wireless broadband provider who would be interested in providing their service in Kingsley (due to potential future competition from Hampshire County Council's Superfast Broadband roll out);
- have had meetings with BT Group and BT Openreach senior managers for the South East to discuss what solution they can offer (until recently, only a high-cost community co-funded solution was on the table);
- have been involved in lengthy negotiations with BT to secure a full fibre broadband upgrade for all of Kingsley at little or no cost to the community and
- have spent countless, often frustrating, hours on all of the above.

We couldn't bring you any tangible news because things were developing and changing on a weekly basis and nothing was confirmed. We also didn't want to raise hopes or make promises that wouldn't be fulfilled, not after the Pine Media let down!

But we're delighted to, at last, be able to deliver the news we have received an email from BT which states 'I can confirm that the solution we will be providing is FTTP [Fibre to the Premises ¹] for Kingsley and the surrounding area ... expected to be delivered by Summer 18...'

The email goes on to say 'While I understand there may be some disappointment that the date is not sooner I will reiterate that we will be trying to do this earlier if at all possible' and further 'I hope that the community will see this as good news as you now have certainty of getting fibre broadband capable of download speeds of up to 1Gbps to your homes and business premises'.

If this goes ahead as we hope, Kingsley will move from currently being in the last 6% in the UK without access to Superfast Broadband (24Mbps+) to being among the first to have FTTP – independent data available to the end of September 2017 estimates only 2.8% of the UK already has FTTP.

BT will initially run fibre optic cables to distribution points on the Kingsley telephone network ², following the existing telephone lines wherever possible. As and when you order Superfast Broadband, a fibre optic cable will be run from the nearest distribution point to a master socket in your home.

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¹ Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) - Broadband delivered on fibre optic cable all the way from the exchange to premises.

² The Kingsley telephone network includes all premises with telephone numbers beginning with 01420 followed by 47 or 48, which includes some premises in Worldham, Selborne and Binsted parishes.

Although the high-end speeds of up to 1Gbps available on FTTP are more expensive, you will be able to order more standard superfast speeds at the same price paid by Fibre to the Cabinet ³ (FTTC) customers, depending on which monthly contract you select with your chosen Internet service provider. In short you will be paying for the speed you order. You will also be able to keep and continue to receive your existing broadband service via your telephone line should you choose not to upgrade to Superfast Broadband.

It is disappointing that we may have to wait until Summer 2018 for FTTP but the alternative was Hampshire County Council's Superfast Broadband roll out plan below, presented at a meeting we had with the programme manager at the end of June. This would have meant a longer wait and 50 properties being left without access to Superfast Broadband because they would be too far from the planned fibre cabinets.

Hampshire Superfast Broadband roll out plans for the Kingsley telephone network as at August 2017:

Programme Phase	Build	Premises provided with access to Superfast Broadband	Delivery date	Premises not provided with access to Superfast Broadband
4	1x fibre cabinet (FTTC)	116	Latter part of 2018	152
6	1x fibre cabinet (FTTC)	102	First quarter 2019	50

A parish wide FTTP deployment is not a small or simple job and Openreach's resources are currently stretched. But, rest assured, we will continue to push for the earliest possible delivery date.

Cllr Karin Clayton
Kingsley Parish Council

³ Fibre to the cabinet (FTTC) - Broadband is delivered on fibre optic cable from the telephone exchange to the street-side cabinet. The final leg between the cabinet and premises is delivered on the existing copper wire telephone cables. With FTTC, Superfast Broadband is only achievable within 1000m of the street cabinet.