

Membury Parish Broadband

email from Alex Tasker to Graham Long

Dated: 7 Jan 2014

Graham,

I thought that you might be interested in the attached. This email has gone out to some 80-odd parishioners who are on my "Broadband update" list. I am the Councillor who has "responsibility" (or in the local parlance Cabinet responsibility!) for parish broadband upgrade. Harry is our Chairman, Nick the Clerk and David runs our website.

Do keep me informed of any developments, please.

My initial reaction to the planned running of a fibre cable from the 01404 (Stockland) exchange to the terminal/junction box below Springfield was

positive. Indeed it should significantly improve our speeds as effectively, rather than the Exchange, that junction box will be at distance zero.

However, I am becoming increasingly concerned that, once again, the rural areas are losing out - further increasing the divide between us and urban areas. (Now that our local access lanes are being allowed to deteriorate due to "lack of funds" the need for broadband will become ever more important!)

I am also worried that the BT engineer suggested that this would be available only on individuals' demand, not automatically.

There is an email from Graham Long (an Upottery Parish Councillor) on the Membury web site [[www.membury.org.uk](http://www.membury.org.uk)] which you may find of interest.

I have selected the para below and would urge all and any business affected by lack of broadband speed to contact Channel 4 (and thereby raise our profile in terms of attention from BT), sign the petition and attend the meetings.

**Channel 4 TV are making a TV documentary about poor rural broadband and have heard about our campaign for fast broadband in Upottery parish and the Blackdown Hills AONB. The producer, Ellie Gibbs would like to talk anyone in the area who is adversely affected by the lack of high speed internet. Ellie can be contacted on 0207 033 2256 or email [ellie.gibbs@dragonfly.tv](mailto:ellie.gibbs@dragonfly.tv)**

Alex Tasker