

## Community Broadband - June 2022

*The Community News is an information service from PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group - "Working Together For Our Community"*

**You may remember earlier news about this exciting community ultra-fast broadband opportunity, which also applies to residents in Old Radnor, New Radnor, and Whitton council areas, as well as to Presteigne & Norton.**

If you have already registered your interest – **THANK YOU!** If you haven't, please take five minutes to read the information below, and consider signing up.

**REMEMBER** – these projects are not so much about your own broadband service, but rather about giving everyone - residents and businesses in all communities - the possibility of ultra-fast broadband service. Large parts of our area don't currently have access to reliable broadband, never mind fast broadband and this puts residents and businesses at a severe disadvantage.

So even if you think you don't need it, registering your interest will be your **GOOD DEED FOR THE DAY!** – and help the whole of our community.

**Put simply,** Presteigne & Norton Town Council, Old Radnor Community Council, Whitton Community Council, and New Radnor Community Council are all supporting projects to bring ultra fast broadband to their separate communities. They are working with a company called Broadway Partners, an approved provider to the UK government, which is providing grant funding for these projects – you might have seen their big banner at several locations around the towns and villages. We're told the schemes for New Radnor and Whitton area residents have reached their minimum target (but more registrations still encouraged) and gone forward for Government funding. However, the Presteigne & Norton and Whitton council area schemes are yet to reach the minimum number of registrations and we need those residents of those areas in particular to register interest urgently.

**Here comes the science bit (skip this paragraph if you like!):** Providing minimum connection speeds of 100mbps via fibre to the premises connections, these projects, if they go ahead, will provide superior speeds even for those currently on fibre from the cabinet broadband, and at a very competitive cost.

Compared to other technologies, a full fibre connection allows the installation to have a far longer lifespan as well as ensuring the infrastructure can support much faster broadband speeds both now and in the future.

### **The areas covered by the projects are:**

Presteigne & Norton Town Council - Presteigne, Norton and surrounding rural properties (Broadway has been asked by the Town Clerk if they can extend the scheme to residents just across the border - answer awaited).

Old Radnor Community Council - Kinnerton, Evenjobb, Walton, Old Radnor and surrounding rural properties

Whitton Community Council - Whitton, Discoed, Cascob, Kinnerton, Rhos-y-Meirch, Monaughty, Llangunllo, Llanbister, Bleddfa & surrounding rural properties

New Radnor Community Council - New Radnor & surrounding rural properties.

If you live in any one of those areas, **please register your interest now**. It's really easy to do:

- see letters inviting you to register interest, which have gone out to residents & businesses from Broadway Partners, and contain details of how to do it
- go to [www.broadwaybroadband.co.uk](http://www.broadwaybroadband.co.uk), enter your postcode and register your interest online

If you live in either Presteigne & Norton, Old Radnor, or New Radnor areas, and haven't received a letter, you can contact your Council Clerk, Tracey Price by email to [oldradnor.clerk@gmail.com](mailto:oldradnor.clerk@gmail.com), or [newradnorcc@outlook.com](mailto:newradnorcc@outlook.com), or [presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com](mailto:presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com), or call Tracey on 01547 528575. There is no Council Clerk at present for Whitton but you can still register direct with Broadway - see above.

The letters can seem a bit heavy-going especially if you don't understand these things (you're not alone, honestly!). So if there is anything you're not sure about please do contact Tracey or one of your local Councillors, or Broadway Partners.

If you prefer to speak to someone in person, Tracey and Broadway Partners will be at the Presteigne Farmers Market at the Memorial Hall this **Saturday 4th June** – they would love to see you there to answer any questions and help you register your interest.

REMEMBER – Registering your interest will cost you NOTHING - and there is absolutely NO COMMITMENT at this stage. Registering your interest is just that – the community saying it is interested in these projects, in order to get them started. We need to reach a certain percentage of properties registering to move the schemes to the next stage for Broadway to apply for Government funding, and at present we are falling short.

You do NOT have to sign up to the new broadband service once it is set up - that will be your choice at the time. There will be lots more information once the service is set up so you can decide then if it's for you. But at this stage, we just want to get the projects started.

**PLEASE ACT NOW - do not leave registration for another day or think others will do it so you need not bother. It really is important that as many residents and businesses as possible register - you are not committing to anything by registering, but the projects will NOT be able to go ahead if sufficient numbers do not return their forms, or register on line. Please register now!**

PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group ... "Working together for the Community"  
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