



# EBAG NEEDS YOU!

## December 2017 Update

There has been a lot of behind the scenes activity within the EBAG team over the last few weeks and we wanted to provide you with an update on the latest developments.

On 12th December, members of the EBAG team had an excellent meeting with HCC and BT Openreach. There are 3 key updates that came from this meeting:

1. The voucher scheme has been extended into 2018 or until the funds are used up. Therefore there is a bit more time to decide when you apply and spend it.
2. Due to developments in technology and service delivery, the solution likely to be proposed by BT Openreach will mean that all 66 properties within the South will be able to receive the same high speed broadband and there will no difference in performance for those houses located at the extremes of the village versus those near the Axford Road / Green Lane junction.
3. The North of the village roll out should be completed Autumn/end of 2018.

### So what are the next steps?

1. BT Openreach are reviewing the documentation we have provided on all 66 properties in the South and are re-calculating the cost of providing Broadband to these properties. HCC will get the quote initially and then provide a revised match-funding quotation to EBAG (realistically Jan 2018).
2. If the village decides to match-fund a BT Openreach service then it potentially could be available within 12 months of the funds being available and the order being placed, obviously this depends on Ellisfield as a whole being able to raise the necessary funds.
3. **We will need to move quickly to avoid losing out on this as any subsidies on offer are on a first come first served basis and are limited.**

In the meantime there are alternative options that can provide a broadband service for those in the village that want a better internet service more immediately. However, EBAG's remit is to identify a service for the whole of Ellisfield that cannot get broadband and while these alternative options can get houses online faster, they may not be the best long term solution.

### Redraw updates:

1. Gavin has had Redraw installed at his house and is receiving a service of 50mbps download speed without Redraw needing to install any additional mast within the village. Further testing is ongoing to see if their service can reach Axford Road properties using the existing mast.

### 4G updates:

1. Testing has been carried out using EE midway along Green Lane and achieving 14mbps download speeds without any external antenna.
2. Testing has been carried out using Vodafone on Axford Road and achieving 20 mbps download speeds but this would require an external antenna. EE does not look to be an option on Axford Road.

### Voucher Scheme:

**To reiterate, the scheme has now been extended into 2018 but a voucher can only be used once - if you decide to apply for a voucher and use it to partially fund either a service from Redraw or an alternative approved service, you will not be able to apply for another voucher for a future BT / Openreach service.**

We will be back in touch in the New Year with the outcome from the re-quote and our options as a village.

Merry Christmas