

Appendix 2.

Great Asby Broadband, Report to Asby Parish Council by Miles Mandelson.

Report to Asby Parish Council on broadband developments by Miles Mandelson, broadband champion & hub co-ordinator – 23 November 2017

1. The Great Asby Broadband wireless network was switched off on 30 September and the process of closing down GAB continues. Announcements will be made via the Asby Parish Message Service to keep the community informed of progress.
2. The outcome of the self-dig proposal submitted to the Community Fibre Partnership scheme run by Openreach on behalf of four outlying premises is now known. Unfortunately, the cost of the project that would have to be met by the applicants was more than they were prepared to bear and so the project will not be going ahead.
3. LonsdaleNet has completed the installation of a wireless network bringing superfast broadband to Little Asby by means of a wireless connection to the hamlet from Great Dun Fell. Grants towards the cost of the work were successfully applied for by the residents to meet the cost. It's fair to say that over 95% of properties in Asby Civil Parish are now able to access superfast broadband, mainly using the Openreach fibre optic network but also the LonsdaleNet wireless network. This is as good as Cumbria as a whole and better than the rest of Eden District.
4. Management of the broadband connection at the Village Hall has been transferred to the Village Hall Committee so that access to the Internet in the Village Hall will continue.
5. The GAB Board of directors has determined that, as part of the disposal of its financial reserves, endowments will be made as follows:
 - a. £2,000 to Asby Village Hall Committee to meet the cost of the broadband connection and telephone line for a period of time.
 - b. £275 to Asby Parish Council to meet the cost of installation of an emergency telephone at Asby Village Hall.
 - c. £5,800 to Asby Village Hall Committee to meet the cost of installation of a ceiling-mounted projector and motorised projection screen.
6. As my role as hub co-ordinator and broadband champion is coming to an end, this is the last report I shall be making to Asby Parish Council. I should like to thank the Parish for its support throughout the seven years that we have been campaigning for superfast broadband in Asby, as well as the other local organisations and individuals who have supported our efforts to provide an interim solution and bring the Parish into the digital age.