

NBG Report for KCC Meeting 16th Mar 2016

There is really nothing to report this month, apart for the disappointing news that cabinet E3 on Station Road is still not live and that the Broadband Advisory Group (BAG) has also not yet had a follow-up meeting. On a small positive note, the exchange in Balfron is now showing that some connections will be live in the next 6 months.

- Cabinet E3 on station Road is still not live (still no power) but a hole has been opened across the road from the cabinet, from which we assume an electrical connection might now be made. But a week on from digging the hole, nothing more has happened! Going live date now showing is May 2016!
- Re-convened BAG chaired by Cllr Neil Benny is yet to meet again. Douglas Baillie (newly appointed Broadband Project Manager) has made positive comments to queries but we are yet to see any results;
- No further details are yet available about the Crosshead Rd cabinet although we think it will support a maximum 500 lines out to premises, of which upto 128 can be fibre connections. Probably only 32 of these 128 will be made available initially;
- Cabinets in other local areas (reliability of dates shown unknown, and reliability of location reliant on rural postcodes): **Balfron (Boquhan)** – 1 cabinet being built (live by June 2016), 1 undergoing Field Survey (live by Oct 2016), 1 in same phase as latter but work not yet started, and 1 in last phase (2017) ; **Balmaha** – nothing planned; **Blanefield/Strathblane** – 1 cabinet (Netherblane) live; 1 (undergoing Field Survey -live by Oct 2016), 2 in Design (live by Jan 2017) and 2 “planned”; **Buchlyvie** – 2 undergoing Field Survey (1 with planning applied, both live by Oct 2016); **Croftamie** - cabinet (between village and A811 jn to Balloch) now live; **Drymen** – cabinet being built on Balmaha Rd (just past jn with Old Balmaha Rd) – live by June 2016), 4 cabinets undergoing Field Survey (live by Oct 2016) and 2 more in Design (live by Jan 2017); **Fintry** – 2 in Design (live by Jan 2017); **Killlearn** – 1 live (E1), 1 “being connected (live by May 2016), & 2 undergoing Field Survey (1 we think is Crosshead Rd, 1 might be sited just south of Baptiston on the A875), and 2 “planned”; **Milton of Buchanan** – nothing planned;
- We still have not heard from Digital Scotland, about when they are proposing to bring their mobile Roadshow to the village. However, given the failure to get cabinet E3 live, there would not be any gain from it in the near future;
- Finally, if you are still not on the ADSL2+ service, detectable by a speed of above 8Mbps if you are fairly near the exchange or one of the 2 cabinets, it will be worthwhile speaking to your ISP. It may need starting a revised, or new, contract but you may also find you can get a better deal.

Doug Ashworth

Chair, Killlearn Broadband Group