

PARISHES LIAISON MEETING – 18TH JUNE 2014

BRIEFING NOTE FROM JOHN WILKINSON ON RURAL BROADBAND (taken under Item 4 – urgent business)

1. BT have begun survey work through the BDUK programme in the B&NES area as expected and have been in conversation with the highways department about delivering the first cabinets.
2. The Connecting Devon and Somerset board is conserving the offer from BDUK for the extension programme and how best to deploy funding in the area.
3. B&NES Council has facilitated a meeting between Wansdyke Telecom CiC and Connecting Devon and Somerset as early engagement in the extension programme, which was positive.
4. Wansdyke Telecom CiC have also been in to speak to the B&NES planning department about the deployment of their own programme
5. B&NES council have held a number of positive meetings with parishes to explore their options where they are within the current commercial rollout, but speeds remain low.
6. B&NES Council continues to explore opportunities to find other means outside these programmes to support access to faster broadband schemes, including at the Local Enterprise Partnership.