

Technology Report. October 2020

James Henderson was asked to advise the Parish Council on technology. In recent months there has been increased concern regarding broadband speed into homes despite the Open Reach programme of a number of years ago.

The government has now committed to increasing broadband speed in rural areas. I've asked James to get a full picture of the situation in WOTG and to begin a conversation with Open Reach about improving the service. Covid19 has resulted in many more villagers working from home and reports to me have been of interrupted service, unreliable speed and the difficulty of more than one person actively working from home via technology.

We do not have a clear impression of the effect on businesses in the village. James is also investigating this aspect of broadband speed.

It is possible to form a community partnership with Open Reach that includes the possibility of an upgrade to a fibre optic connection to each home as opposed to the use of the telephone line via copper wire. We are making inquiries as to the service being developed for the new houses at the north end of the village. If Open Reach will be working in our village, would it be possible to have a full village upgrade?

We will keep the Parish Council updated on findings and will be making a formal recommendation in the future.

Diane Bohm  
James Henderson