

Levens B4RN Group

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- As you can see from the B4RN leaflet we are at last about to start major construction.
- The above map shows the two distinct areas, each having a different method.
 - Within the red line a major contractor, Safeplace, will bring B4RN to your boundary. Mainly by digging along roads and verges leaving a connection by every house.
 - Outside the red line our group will be coordinating construction. Large sections of it will be laid by a contractor in the fields. However, the remainder will need to be dug by volunteers. We suggest local groups of properties work together to connect their own small area.
- The village is split into small areas each of which has a local route coordinator. Please see Levens Village website B4RN page to find out the coordinator for your route.
- In all areas our group will advise and provide guidance and materials where appropriate – but note we are not going to do the bulk of the digging without help from householders.
- Everywhere householders are responsible for installing the duct between their boundary and house.
- Within the red line the most urgent thing for you do now is installing the duct at your boundary, where the contractor will leave their connection.
- Each house will need a house kit installing. This is a box inside and outside the house, linked by a hole drilled through the wall.
- Just before going live a router will be installed. You must have signed and returned a B4RN contract before this happens.
- Grant funding for connection ends of 31st March so this is your last chance to apply for a government voucher entitling you to a B4RN £150 dig grant.
- Once the connection phase is completed our group will disband, so if you ever want to connect in future you will have to liaise directly with B4RN and pay full engineering costs.
- In a retrospective change of funding rules, B4RN have unfortunately now said that if they are connecting a property via an existing BT duct the household will not receive the £150 dig grant. We think this is unfair – if you feel unhappy about this contact B4RN directly.
- Should you not wish to install the duct or the house kit yourself you can pay a local contractor, a list can be supplied by your local route coordinator. In some circumstances our group may be able to organise volunteers if age or infirmity are an issue.
- In recognition of the huge amount of work involved in planning and executing this scheme we are requesting that all households consider making a minimum charitable donation of £50 to 'The Levens Village Charity'. I stress none of this money goes to individuals.
- There is a large amount of work to be undertaken in the next 12 months. We would welcome volunteers to help with administration of local areas or with occasional digging days.

This is a very exciting time - let's work together to take this leap into the future.