

Community Broadband

# Together We Are The Network Guy Jarvis, NextGenUs UK CIC





- Big Society Localism and Community
  - Government focus on local communities "doing it for themselves"
  - Broadband is recognised as strategic imperative for UK now
  - Time to Build a Real World Network!



# NextGenUs 4<sup>th</sup> Utility Model

- Social Enterprise 3<sup>rd</sup> Way Approach
- Objective FttH as widespread in future as mains electricity is today
- Ubiquitous availability of service, provide everyone with at least the USC Digital Safety Net now
- 1ten100 approach using VSAT, wireless and Fibre as appropriate to provide service



#### What, Where, When Delivery roadmap

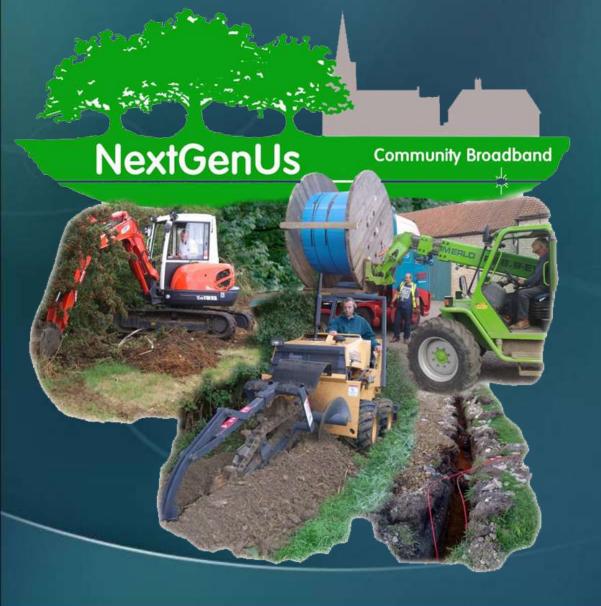
Trigger level commitment
Start
Stakeholder Support

Costing and Design
 Design
 Return of service commitment

Order Fat pipe
 Supply
 Distribute service



# Ashby Case Study



#### ADSL Broadband Notspot

#### Great Community Spirit

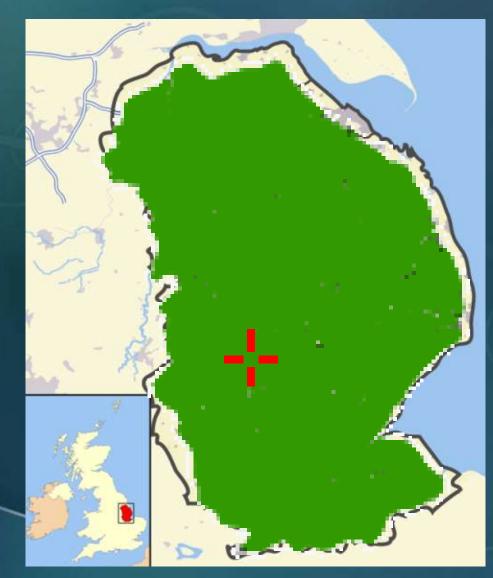
Ready for Change!

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Thanks to SWBB



# Geography







# The FttH Build Challenge

**FttH Costs** 

Civils Rest

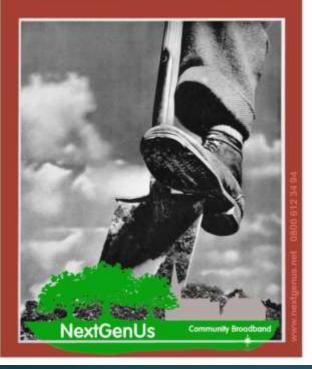
Biggest single cost of FttH is the Civils

- How can we drive down these costs?
- How can we drive customer uptake from the outset?



# Dig Your Own Fibre

#### DIG FOR BROADBAND







# **Big Society Approach**

 Encourage the local community to Dig Your Own Fibre to drive down costs and create a shared sense of delivery and ownership

Goodwill from local landowners and authorities who recognise the different nature of the Social Enterprise approach

Together We Are The Network ethos

# Timeline - 1

- March 2010 identify a community in digital pain that is ready to work together to solve this problem
- April 2010 Public meetings, exceptional attendance, clear community commitment
- May 2010 order fat pipe internet feed
- June 2010 complete detailed design and procurement for the 1<sup>st</sup> Mile FttH network



# Timeline - 2

- July 2010 Build the Digital Village Pump
- August 2010 deploy 1<sup>st</sup> Mile FttH
- October 2010 complete FttH connections
- November 2010 service live



#### Problems encountered

Sounds great – what about the problems?

Cutting through power cables, water pipes :(

Difficulties with BT tail were biggest issue

• Over a two week period in August 2010....



# **Duct Sharing**

• Excess Construction Charges went from £8600

- To £98000...
- To £250,000+ !!!

Then back to zero – How?
NextGenUs dug some 2 miles across country to BT and allowed BT to share NextGenUs duct.



# Ashby Stats at a Glance

- 45 FttH connections (75% uptake), Gbps symmetric to the home, 100Mbps symmetric internet service, initially
- 7 FiWi (12%), unable to fibre up readily due to access issues, upto 70Mbps symmetric internet service delivered wirelessly

 8 Digitally Reluctant (13%) who can be brought on later as they choose (at higher cost to the customer)

# **Bigger Picture**

Ashby + Digby and surrounding communities 2000+ household catchment area FiWi delivery:

FttH to Ashby Wireless to Digby and beyond District-wide

Everyone gets FttH over time by CIC surplus reinvestment – no Digital Deadends!

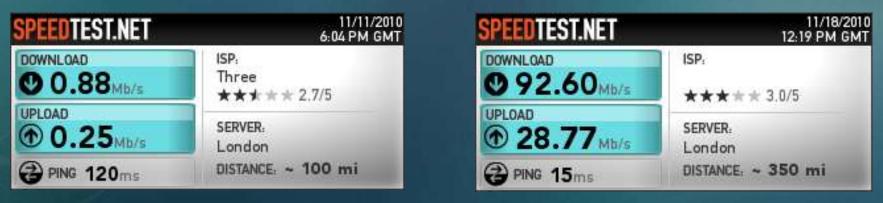


# Services

- Isenberg's Stupid Network Philosophy
- Fat Pipes, symmetric service, empowering the customers, opening the Digital taps
- Community TV in HD
- Improved TV reception, range of channels and quality of service
- Intranet capabilities within the local community – "walled garden"
  - Improved Mobile Phone Coverage



### **Outcomes and Futures**



- Transforms a former BT Notspot into the UK leader for broadband speed
- Some 10,000 similar sized clusters across the UK together represent the Final Third
- Key Message is that this is a viable Big Society approach for each and every local community to seriously consider

# Summary

- Not a penny of Public Subsidy involved to date
- A private and community funded project with support from Parish, District and County Councils
- Exemplar of Big Society Delivery
- Paradigm shift providing a third way of telecoms utility ownership
- Putting people first offering local communities a future-proof network and simply a better deal.



**Community Broadband** 

# **Together We Are The Network**

Are you one of the 10,000 communities? Let's talk! g.jarvis@nextgenus.net

