

Phone and Broadband arrangements for Clerk

The contract agreed between Wickhambrook Parish Council and Three for the Clerk's mobile has now lapsed and should either be renewed, or a new contract agreed with an alternative provider.

The move to a mobile phone with unlimited calls & texts & 4gb data has made a significant saving over the previous arrangement for fixed landline and broadband, and has enabled the clerk to conduct work out on site, take and save images of issues which need addressing and work more flexibly.

The current mobile is a Huawei, and works perfectly adequately, but with more network providers moving away from supporting Huawei, because they are having to move to their own software, a move to an alternative device may now be appropriate. This would leave the existing device as an asset for the parish council which could be switched, for example, to a pay as you go or SIM only option, to be used for emergency planning.

A summary of options identified is below:

OPTION	PROVIDER	BUSINESS PLAN	COST PER MONTH
1	EE	Samsung Galaxy A12 Unlimited calls & texts plus 1gb data	£16 plus VAT
		Sim only Unlimited calls & texts plus 2gb data	£10 plus VAT
2	Three	Samsung Galaxy A12 Unlimited calls & texts plus 5gb data	£15.83 plus VAT
		Sim only Unlimited calls & texts plus 2gb data	£2.50 plus VAT
3	Vodafone	Samsung Galaxy A12 Unlimited calls & texts plus 6gb data	£23.37 plus VAT Plus upfront cost of £24.17 plus VAT
		Sim only Unlimited calls & texts plus 2gb data	£15.50 plus VAT

The best option appears to be to move to Three, which would cost a total of £18.33 per month.

Recommendation:

Move to Three at a cost of £18.33 per month (ex any out of plan charges).

**Hilary Workman
Clerk & RFO
March 2021**