

## Required Response

**Please tick all that apply and drop this slip at the village shop, or email us this information and we will be in touch.**

Business  Residential

- I am interested in taking up B4RN broadband internet service.
- I am interested in investing in B4RN shares.
- I am willing to give help with — digging, tech help, canvassing neighbours, route planning, making tea & cake or .....

Please add me to your mail list (Not shared outside B4rn)

### Your Contact Details

Name -

Business Name

Address -

Email -

Phone -

Email - [info@witherslackb4rn.org.uk](mailto:info@witherslackb4rn.org.uk)

Rick Fry

Steve Ratcliffe

Tel 015395 21550

Or drop this slip off at the Witherslack Village Shop.

## About B4RN

Broadband for the Rural North Ltd or 'B4RN' was launched in December 2011 by a local volunteer group including Monica Lee and Chris Condor and led by industry expert Barry Forde. Registered as a community benefit society with the FCA it can never be bought by a commercial operator and its profits can only be distributed to the community.

The initial share offering raised hundreds of thousands of pounds from the local community and resulted in breaking the first ground in Quernmore in March 2012. They won an ISPA 'Internet Hero' award and by 2015 there were 1,000 properties connected, gaining royal recognition with a visit from HRH The Prince of Wales.

Barry Forde and Chris Condor were included in the Queen's Honours list and were awarded MBEs. Barry and Monica are Founding Directors, and have been joined by Peter Hearne, Chris Carr, and Ian Thompson.



### VILLAGE SCHOOL, CHURCH & SHOP

Dean Barwick School, St.Paul's Church will be offered a fast unlimited B4RN service free of charge, they just need to pay or find a sponsor for their connection at £150 which works out far cheaper than any other provider.

Terms & Conditions and government subsidies are subject to change

WITHERSLACK

**Witherslack Millside Beckhead  
Meathop and Whitbarrow  
B4RN Hyper Fast 1,000 mbps  
Fibre Broadband to all  
Properties in the parish**

Community

Project

**STOP PRESS**  
Future Proofing  
Our Community

So far 77 Business registrations

85 Residential registrations

**But we need more please  
register at**

[www.witherslackb4rn.org.uk](http://www.witherslackb4rn.org.uk)





### Hyper Fast Fibre Optic Internet

Witherslack is now just 2km from the edge of the B4RN network at Gilpin Bridge.

B4RN - 'Broadband for the rural north' works across northern Lancashire and is crossing into Cumbria & North Yorkshire.

A Community owned & not for profit organisation, it has around 1200 shareholders and has raised £4.8M in shares & loans.

BT has fibre to the cabinet before the service swaps back to copper wire, giving some of the village speeds of around 30 mbps download and 5 mbps upload, Yet many others in our community get a mere fraction of this speed - 1 mbps !

The B4RN network can offer speeds of up to 1,000mbps download & upload, future proofing our community, adding value to our homes and dragging us into the future with speeds and a capacity far ahead of neighbouring towns & cities.

B4RN works by raising investment funds from each community who wishes to join the network. Investing in B4RN is something each person must assess for themselves and the members of the Witherslack B4RN project can offer neither advice nor recommendations about this.

B4RN is a non-profit 'community benefit' society. Its running costs are easily sustained and its profits can only be distributed to the community. Visit the B4RN website at <https://b4rn.org.uk/b4rn-community/investors/> for full details on investment. This includes:

- Minimum shareholding £100 / maximum £100,000.
- All shareholders are members of B4RN. One member one vote.
- Shares must be held for a minimum of 3 years.
- Individual investors can claim 30% tax relief (HMRC Enterprise Investment Scheme).
- After year 3, interest of 5% can be paid out or reinvested.
- Some shareholders choose to invest £1,500 and claim free connection.
- Shares can only ever be sold back to B4RN at £1 each.

**Loans to B4RN** – Loans paying 4% compound interest at the end of a 5 year term are available to supporters of B4RN, by application to Monica ([m.lee@b4rn.org.uk](mailto:m.lee@b4rn.org.uk)). These are more applicable to those who do not pay income tax and so cannot benefit from the EIS tax-rebate, and for companies that wish to invest in B4RN.

**Email - [info@witherslackb4rn.org.uk](mailto:info@witherslackb4rn.org.uk)**

**[Rick Fry](#)**

**[Steve Ratcliffe](#)**

**Tel: 015395 21550**

**Mail - Witherslack B4RN Project, C/O Witherslack Cycle Barn, Beck Head, Witherslack, Cumbria LA11 6SH**

£150 one off connection charge plus £30 per month for 1,000mbps Internet. (Connection charge may be covered by future government funding \*)

- 14 to 30 x faster than Fibre to cabinet (BT).
- 166 x faster than standard ADSL broadband.
- B4RN has no limits on time or capacity.
- Stream TV, Video calls, Gaming or CCTV.
- Download a HD movie (4GB) in around 34 sec.
- Don't need landline if you use a VOIP service (Vonage starts from £8/month extra).

If you have broadband already, you may wish to let that contract expire prior to starting a contract with B4RN. However, you would need to get connected to

## B4RN Subscribers

B4RN works by engaging parish communities to volunteer and help set up their own network drawing on their expertise and support as and when needed.

Already connected in many neighbouring parishes spread across North Lancashire and South Lakes.

Presently online to over 6500 properties.

The network is constantly expanding. You can see where it is live, being installed, and being planned, on the coverage area page on the B4RN website.

Each of these community connections has been developed by the local community, working with B4RN.

B4RN report that uptake averages about 65% of all properties in the communities they have completed.