



## Interim Newsletter September 2020

### Telkom Fibre Project

Members will recall that the installation of a Fibre To The Home (FTTH) network on Raptor's View was suspended during 2018, following a contractual dispute with Telkom.

After Telkom abandoned the project, the subcommittee engaged with a private service provider who proposed installing new fibre infrastructure at a significant cost to Raptor's View HOA. Although this proposal was for an "Open Access network" (i.e. any Internet Service Provider (ISP) could offer services on the network), the operator could not guarantee that anyone but themselves would operate as an ISP on the network. Based on the latter, the proposal was declined and the fibre project was suspended indefinitely.

Raptor's View HOA was recently approached by Openserve, the wholesale division of Telkom, presenting a considerably more favourable fibre option for Raptor's View.

This new proposal is as follows:

- Openserve will complete the FTTH network to the whole estate at no cost to the HOA nor members;
- The Openserve FTTH network will be Open Access and served by all ISPs who currently offer services on Openserve's national fibre network (see <https://openserve.co.za/open/isp-partners>). The choice of ISP will be at the prerogative of individual homeowners; and
- Members signing-up for a fibre package through an ISP, will be responsible for the installation of a trench and conduit sleeving (specifications to follow), from the FTTH network to their home. Openserve will run the physical fibre cable, that connects homes to the

network, through this sleeving. Although it is not a significant contribution, Openserve will cover the costs of the first 8 metres of this trenching. Homeowners can utilise their own labour for this installation, or use an electrician or contractor of their choice. In some cases, it might be possible to install the fibre cable through any existing Telkom conduiting to their home.

The Fibre subcommittee and the Board have reviewed the proposal by Openserve, and agree that it will be of considerable benefit to homeowners to have the availability of a fibre network, should they wish to make use thereof. It is particularly attractive as it will come at no cost to the Estate and members.

Openserve indicated that should permission be granted by Raptors HOA, construction can commence within the next two weeks and the project would be completed in January 2021. Connections will be possible as and when sections are complete.

Having a functional Fibre network in Raptors will undoubtedly add to members property value.