

Community Speed Watch Report Annual Village Meeting 2022

Community Speedwatch:

This is a national initiative where members of local communities join with the support and supervision of their local police to record details of speeding vehicles using approved detection devices.

Registered keepers of vehicles exceeding the speed limit are contacted - initially with a letter explaining the potential risks and consequences of their dangerous behaviour. Repeat offenders will receive a visit from the local police, irrespective of where they live. Beyond these friendly gestures, focused enforcement and criminal prosecution follow based on the collated evidence.

In the past year a new online scheme has been introduced, coordinated by PC Lee Turnham based out of Chesham, which will centralise all resources, such as training materials, calendar bookings, and reporting tools. We can also take advantage of TVP insurance liability of £50million. It also provides a more automated system for recording data on offenders. Since Christmas over 400 sites have been approved across the Thames Valley, with over 735 hours of roadside sessions recorded

We went live at the end of December, with new sites around the village approved and volunteers trained on the new procedures. We exclusively use the Bushnell Speed gun for Speedwatch. We no longer use the speed camera which proved cumbersome to use.

We now have a permanent Community Speedwatch sign at all three main entrances/exits to the village. This means we no longer legally have to erect a roadside sign at the beginning of each session.

Results:

The number of sessions has dropped quite significantly over the last couple of years. Partly because of COVID, but also due to people moving out of the area, or people who can no longer volunteer due to other commitments. The first three months of this year has been no exception. The last attempt at a session was cancelled due to the storms back in February. However, as the weather improves, you will begin to see us again.

Interesting facts:

Worst offending manufacturer in 2022 in Cuddington goes to Audi. Closely followed by Hyundai.

Max speeds through Cuddington last year was 61 on the Aylesbury Road, with speeds of 50+ being regularly recorded on Dadbrook and Bridgeway

Volunteers:

I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered over the last year. However as I have already mentioned, the number of volunteers is diminishing. If you are interested in volunteering, please grab me after the meeting or contact me via email.

SID

SID stands for Speed Indicator Device. Funded by a grant from Transport for Bucks we have purchased a Gen5-Pro from Traffic Technology based at Silverstone, near the race track.

You will have all seen these devices in villages up and down the country. They flash up the speed of any passing vehicle, with a corresponding sad or smiley face.

We have three locations in the village and we move the SID regularly between these locations.

As well as giving instant feedback to motorists, it also records vehicle data: It will record the speed, whether the vehicle was accelerating or decelerating, and the direction of travel. It can record this information 24hrs a day, 7 days a week (as long as the battery lasts!!), in any weather conditions. The SID will provide the village with a much more accurate idea of when and where the worst offending occurs. Community Speedwatch and/or the police can then target their activity accordingly. It will also be useful in formulating traffic policy for the village.

With Speedwatch we used to use a clicker to get an idea of traffic volumes. For example, we regularly recorded 600 + through Bridgeway in rush hour. The SID gives us this information with bells on. I can show you some sample reports if you are interested after this meeting.

Steve Wright
Cuddington Community Speed Watch