

Swanbourne Parish Council meeting 7th September 2022

Community Speed Watch

PC Lee Turnham gave an update to the Winslow and Villages Community Board on the Community Speed Watch project, which empowered local volunteers to monitor the speed of vehicles travelling through their area and deter speeders. The following key points were made in his update:

- A new, exclusively online Speedwatch system would be implemented in the near future following a successful six-month pilot scheme.
- Following a short training course, residents would be able to operate as a local group to monitor traffic speed (Operators would collect the data from the roadside, and Co-Ordinators would upload information to the system).
- TVP (Thames Valley Police) would send any necessary warning letters to those flagged as speeding, based on the uploaded data. Reported vehicles also get checked for tax and MOT.
- The new system could process the information of up to 100 vehicles per minute and distribute letters.
- Data would be made available online to residents to monitor traffic trends in their areas based on the uploaded data.
- Data would be gathered and assessed over approximately six months to determine hotspot areas where enforcement may be necessary.
- During the pilot scheme, 94.02% of those who received a first warning letter did not receive a second or third warning. Should 3 letters be needed in a six-month rolling period the vehicle keeper may get a face to face warning from TVP.

Following questions from the Community Board, PC Turnham confirmed the following key points:

- The start-up kit loaned free of charge by TVP would contain a Speedwatch sign to be placed ahead of the roadside checkpoint, a handheld speed gun (with instructions) and three reflective jackets.
- TVP would supply one kit per group, but recommended the use of multiple kits per group to facilitate coordination of data collection in a local area. Additional kits would cost between £200-300
- Information and news updates related to Community Speedwatch would be communicated via the Police and Crime Commissioner's website which could be found via the following link: <https://www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/speedwatch/>
- Anyone interested in joining an existing Speedwatch group, or forming a new one was encouraged to do so via the dedicated website at the following link: <https://communityspeedwatch.org/FRONT-v2-Home.php>

PC Turnham referred to alternative options: speed bumps – can be noisy and need to be fierce to have significant impact; chicanes- usually need additional street lighting.