

Haddenham Village Voice - CRW Contribution for Mar 20 by MD Community Roadwatch(UK) CIC

I trust this finds you all in a safer place in 2020 thanks to the efforts of your pro-active, supportive Parish, District and County Councillors, your Community Speedwatch team (volunteers always needed – names to the Parish Clerk please), and of course the supportive efforts of us in Community Roadwatch (CRW) who carry out the village SWARCO Speed Indicator Device (SID) data downloads, mastermind their moves and maintain an overview of the scheduled fortnightly battery changes by your 4-strong, CRW-trained and equipped SID Support Team (SST) . Data from our Loggers and your SIDs are published at www.roadwatch.org.uk/cambs/haddenham and those who live under them will tell you that they DO have an effect on responsible drivers to a greater extent than do the mainly-ignored flashing 30/40 VAS (Vehicle Activated Signs). We have set your SIDs to switch off at 10pm till 6am to stop them flashing into bedrooms all night long. All of our Raw Data is freely available to those who might wish to delve and further analyse them.

Naturally, there will always be the anti-social, over-confident, ‘I always drive safely’ driver but we have evidence – mainly from extensive observations over 5 years using the Mk 1 eyeball - to show that 70%-80% of drivers who are exceeding the limit slow once their actual speed is displayed by a SID, rather than a VAS.. Why? Private vehicles slow for TWO reasons mainly: (1) because they are inadvertently speeding or are about to and just need a timely reminder at 31 mph; OR (2) because peer pressure kicks in and they do not want to be recognised as a resident that’s amongst the speeders being complained about at Parish Council meetings or causing humps to be installed. For liveried commercial vehicles, however, drivers are beginning to realise that the public following them (or on the pavement) can see their excessive speeds and record the excess on their dashcams or even using their Mk 1 eyeball. Thus, the public – YOU - are able to note and report the speed, date, time and place with full or partial Reg Number to the company that these days have their own trackers (and dashcams) in their vehicles to identify the vehicle and corroborate any such reports.

Please also cc to CRW coord@roadwatch.org.uk any reports you send to companies so we can see if we too have written to them in the past. As a result, we will monitor/pursue persistent speeding/non-responses for you using our extensive database that can collate observations by Company and Reg number so no corporate trends can go undetected and unaddressed. If you don’t know the email address, please ask us. We have determined from our extensive use of Houston Radar loggers that commercial vehicles comprise 10%-30% of the traffic through Haddenham (depending on time of day), so every little they contribute by their compliance will always help a lot and any little no matter how little is always better than absolutely no little at all.

So, Let’s get this done in 2020!!

