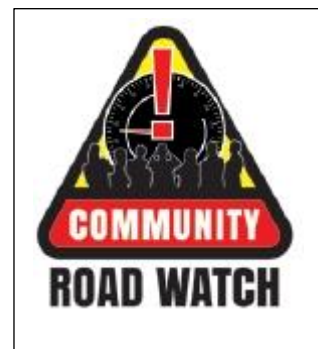


CRW CONTRIBUTION TO VILLAGE VOICE MAR 21 EDITION BY MD DAVID MCCANDLESS

We trust this finds you safe and well in your homes. Also, during this Lockdown #3, your two village same-household, volunteer SID Support Teams (SSTs) - have endeavoured to make your village's roads a tad safer for your essential journeys by charging and changing the batteries of one SID each every 2 weeks or so to reduce accidents and thereby 'Save the Load on the NHS'. Just prior to the Lockdown Community Roadwatch (CRW) assisted Richard and Linda (SST#1) to train the Parish Council's new Speedwatch/Roadwatch Liaison – Cllr Stephen Thompson – on how to safely move the SID from West End (Outbound) to Hop Row (Inbound) at the Play Area car park so he can assist with future moves and inform Speedwatch of locations. Unfortunately, because of torrential rain, SST#2 - comprising Matthew and Vivian who also download all the data - had to leave the SID at the bottom of Station Road until the end of Lockdown because moving it entails exposing the electronics to remove the batteries – as shown in the photo - and then it takes 3 people to safely remove/install it, so moving during it Lockdown was/is not deemed practical nor indeed, essential.



However, during this time we were able to assist Cllr Gareth Wilson determine the best location for 4 new posts in West End (30) and Hill Row (40) for the 2 new SIDs your proactive Parish Council obtained in last year's LHI process. These SIDs can be used by Community Speedwatch – when it is allowed to resume - to detect speeding vehicles for letters from the Police to be sent to the vehicles' Registered Keepers, who, in the case of hired/ leased/ contracted commercial vehicles may not actually be the Owner/MD/Operator. That's how CRW complements Speedwatch by carrying out its own sessions with these SIDs to identify speeding commercial vehicles; then, after researching/determining the name and email address of the appropriate company executive we send the speeding info to them with a request for educational 'words with the driver' to encourage their compliance in future. Unlike Speedwatch we ask for confirmation of the action being taken and we get replies 80% of the time too with all but 3, in the 2500 we have sent to date, being positive. So, working together in different ways, but with a common aim – to make your roads safer – the efforts of both Roadwatch and Speedwatch do make a difference that no matter how small, is always better than no difference at all. So, join Speedwatch and see for yourself.

Data from your SIDs and our Loggers, when fitted, from 2016 can be found at www.roadwatch.org.uk/cambs/Haddenham and do please note our achievements in the past at www.roadwatch.org.uk/cambs/RFFProject and our continuing efforts (3rd attempt) in 2021 to 'Make Sawtry Way Safer for All' at www.roadwatch.org.uk/cambs/SawtryWay2020 - please add your support.

David McCandless, MD & National Coord, Community Roadwatch(UK) CIC, Company No 10085683