

MOST DRIVERS WITHIN THE LAW

Most drivers in Main Street are still observing the 30 mph speed limit - just. This is the good news from the latest speed survey.

Covert speed monitoring equipment was installed near the conker tree in front of the church in Main Street for seven days from 9th to 16th June 2010. Unfortunately, the equipment stopped working after 13th June, so data was only collected for four days, which included a Saturday and a Sunday morning when there was less school and commuter traffic. The weather and visibility were good. During that time 3,890 vehicles passed the equipment, which means that around 970 vehicles passed the church each day.

Out of 3890 vehicles, 277 were travelling faster than 35 mph, and 34 were exceeding 40 mph. One vehicle (clearly driven by the local lunatic) was measured at 50-54 mph.

The complete data were :

Speed mph	0-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60+
Number								
Eastbound	1436	576	125	14	1	0	0	0
Westbound	1139	462	118	14	4	1	0	0
Total	2575	1038	243	28	5	1	0	0
Percent	66.2	27.7	6.2	0.7	0.1	0	0	0

These figures can be compared with a survey carried out in the same place in 2006 (Carlton News, August 2006), which used different equipment and slightly different data classes.

In 2006, 91% of vehicles were travelling at less than 30 mph, compared to 66% in 2010. The proportion of vehicles travelling at 30-39 mph has increased from 9% in 2006 to 33% in 2010. This shows that more vehicles are now being driven near to the 'prosecution limit' of 35 mph, rather than the statutory 30 mph. It is worrying that these speeds are being maintained round the blind corner by the church.

The PC will seek to improve on the current level of compliance by arranging random radar speed checks and further surveys.

The Parish Council would like to thank the majority of local drivers who do comply with the speed limit through the centre of the village. The PC also thanks Mr Tom Hayward of the Police Road Safety Unit for arranging for the deployment of this equipment and providing the results.

Parish Clerk