

## Alne Parish Council Speed Surveys

In recent months, a number of Alne parishioners have raised concerns as to the apparent high speed of some vehicles going through the village.

To determine whether these are exceptional occasions or whether there is a widespread general problem of speeding within the village, Alne Parish Council have, over the last few months, carried out a series of speed surveys. These have been done on Monk Green, on Main Street at the east entry to the village, and on Main Street at the centre of the village. School morning and afternoon times have been favoured as well as early evening.

Alne Parish Council has asked the police for professional guidance on interpreting the results of these speed surveys. The Chairman has also spoken to the local Police Community Officer and his advice is that police only consider there is a problem when average speeds are above 30mph and the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile is above 35mph. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile is a standard measure and is the speed below which 85% of vehicles are travelling.

The police have advised that Alne is nowhere near these limits. Key points:

- \* 249 vehicles were checked with a radar gun;
- \* 86% of these 249 vehicles were abiding by the law (at or under 30mph);
- \* 97% of the 249 vehicles were at 35mph or below;
- \* The average speed was 26mph;
- \* The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile was 29.5mph.

The overall conclusion is that the vast majority of vehicles travelling through Alne are not exceeding the speed limit. Police advice is that this is not surprising given the twisty road layout and the incidence of parked cars, both of which require drivers to slow down.

Tractors often appear to be going faster than they are on account of their size and noise. We didn't find any tractor breaking the law – which is not to say that they don't sometimes go faster than they should!

Boy racers crashing at speed into lampposts in the early hours of the morning are also, of course, not included. There is, as far as we and the police are aware, no real deterrent for this.

Should the situation change in the future such that a need for more proactive measures becomes clear, Alne Parish Council will keep the matter under review.

Alne Parish Council  
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