

## **SPEEDING TRAFFIC THROUGH THE VILLAGE**

There has been a lot of consternation over the amount of traffic going through our village recently due to the A3088 being closed. Not only did we witness the huge increase in the number of vehicles but the total disregard for pedestrians and other road users' safety, the 20mph speed limit and vehicle weight limits. The Parish Council received numerous telephone calls and emails asking whether the parish council could do anything and why they weren't sorting it out!

The Parish Council's Powers are limited to what we can be do but members did report the situation to Highways and the Police which resulted in a proactive police presence throughout the village. We would like to thank the members of the public who also reported issues to these authorities.

For over 15 years the Parish Council has listened to our residents' concerns on traffic speed and finally succeeded in getting a 20mph speed limit a couple of years ago. Unfortunately, our Community Speedwatch team disbanded, and we have been trying ever since to get it reformed. We cannot do this by ourselves and we need the support of the community through volunteers. A Community Speedwatch team is a visible presence in the village which encourages drivers to slow down – this has been proven time and time again! If you have strong concerns about the traffic going through the village and feels that something needs to be done, please assist us by taking up the mantle. All that is required, is a group of around 5 or 6 people on a rota basis who are prepared to log traffic speed and vehicle details. You will be properly trained by Avon and Somerset Police and given all the necessary equipment and PPE.

As another deterrent, the Parish Council has just ordered a Speed Indicator Device (SID) which records vehicles speed. However, before we can install this device, the locations need to be approved by Somerset County Council. So far, we have managed to get one site approved and we are in the process of getting another one. Not only are these devices a visible deterrent the data from the SIDs can be forwarded on to local authorities to effect change.

If you would like to help please contact Sarah Moore, Parish Clerk either by email: [clerk\\_montacutepc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:clerk_montacutepc@hotmail.co.uk) or telephone: 01935 822455