



SAFER ROADS IN OUR PARISH

We need **YOUR** Help.....

Following on from our road safety survey conducted at the end of 2023 this helped us to refresh our key road safety risk areas. Thank you to everyone who took time to complete our survey, the results can be found [here](#).

This special newsletter follows on from that survey to help ensure we have safe roads in our parish — and we need your help!

The Parish Council is not responsible for the maintenance of the highway or deciding upon speed limits. The Parish Council can use its precept to support specific projects such as speed indicator devices at the agreement of the Highways department.

We are therefore totally dependent upon Cheshire West and Chester (CWAC) Highways department to allocate and spend their budget appropriately and give us their approvals.

The Parish Council has raised many highways issues, and despite our best efforts progress is slow. Our aim now, is to provide a real focus on THREE priorities for the Parish and push progress with these. We know the strength of feeling amongst residents about road safety. So here is what we are asking all households to do by (31st August), to help us in our campaign:

Please pick one (or more) of the areas detailed below and send a personal email to Highways department

ENGVRoyal@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

You may also wish to lobby your local Ward Councillors or MP

gina.Lewis@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

stuart.Bingham@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

andrew.cooper.mp@parliament.uk

1

Pot holes / uneven road surfaces - whilst there are problems with potholes in a number of locations within the parish, particular areas of concern are Cinder Hill, Cassia Green and Clay Lane. Due to heavy agricultural vehicles visiting farms locally and volume of traffic road surfaces regularly degrade, and our rural roads not prioritised, temporary repairs are not lasting.



2

Approach to school— We have recently requested that the speed limit outside the school is reduced to 20mph as is the case with 120 of schools in CWAC. We are one of only 25 schools who do not have a 20mph limit outside their school. Highways say “The road outside the school has been assessed twice (2016 & 2020) for a 20 mph speed limit and the criteria was not met, we would not look to introduce a 20 mph speed limit here, there is an issue with compliance with the 30 mph speed limit, a lower limit would have a significantly higher issue with compliance.”

A recent speed survey conducted over a 7 day window in June 2024 by Cheshire Police confirms a the mean average speed recorded of 25.6mph for overall flow , 25.1 toward Hartford and 25.9 toward Dalefords Lane. This shows good compliance with the 30mph limit and supports our case for a 20mph outside the school. We need to lobby CWAC to change their policy which is due for review next year, as this only allows for areas where the average is below 24mph to be reduced to 20mph.



3

The Beeches— The Recreation Room is used daily (term-time) by Whitegate Pre-school and other community groups during evening. The parking is situated across the road from the building and so parents with young children / elderly residents have to cross the busy road. There is also a history of accidents at this location. An interactive sign was installed a number of years ago funded by the Parish Council. We would like to see a 20mph speed limit at school drop off/pick up times, a pedestrian crossing road marking and improvements to the car parking surface (in the lay-by).

