

The Charltons Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mrs Rebecca Carter
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Mr David Fothergill
Highways and Transport
Somerset County Council
County Hall
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 4DY

15th December 2016

Dear Mr Fothergill,

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE – SPEED REDUCTION MEASURES IN THE CHARLTONS

The Charltons Parish Council is extremely concerned about the excessive speeds of traffic through Charlton Mackrell and Charlton Adam. The volume of traffic is increasing as we are on a commuter route between various centres of business and leisure activity. Several roads lead into the villages – the Kingweston Road from the Street/Glastonbury area, Tout Lane and Broadway from the A37, bringing traffic from the Yeovil area and off the A303, and Ilchester Road which connects with the A372 to Langport and beyond. Traffic also feeds in from Somerton through West Charlton.

Part of the village area is covered by a 30mph limit the Kingweston Road end, (although our Speedwatch group regularly records speeds of over 40mph in Kingweston Road) and through Charlton Adam, but goes up to 40mph near the War Memorial (Ilchester Road/Collins Lane junction), and this includes the Ilchester Road/Bonfire Lane junction where primary school children have to cross the road to reach the school, and although there are flashing lights and a crossing patrol, 40mph at this point is not acceptable. This road is also much used by pedestrians and horse riders and for much of its length there is no footway. Slightly further on is the junction with Tout Lane, where the mini-roundabout is in dire need of re-painting and the “give way to the right” rule is poorly observed – sometimes blatantly so. An added hazard here is the entrance to the Primrose Hill mobile home park, which is very close to the mini-roundabout off Tout Lane.

We feel the simplest and best achievable course would be to have a 30mph limit right through the villages and extended much further up the approach roads than is now the case. In addition there should be a 20mph limit while the school crossing lights are flashing and by the school itself at arriving and leaving times. Better and larger signs at the village entrances – asking for careful driving, for example - should also help. Re-

siting of limit signs ought to be a straightforward procedure and we would add that our Parish Council has a ring-fenced sum of approximately £4000.00 to contribute if a scheme is agreed.

We do not want to have to wait until there is a serious injury or fatality before action is taken and ask you to give this matter urgent consideration.

Yours sincerely

Christine Wellstead

Christine Wellstead
Chairman

CC:

C.Cllr D Ruddle

D.Cllr D Norris

Mr J Nicholson, Somerset Highways

Mr C Fletcher, Somerset Highways

Mr P Flahtery, SCC Chief Executive

Councillors The Charltons Parish Council