Community Speedwatch Group Proposal about Speed Indicator Devices

Following on from the strong support given by residents to the proposals at the recent Traffic Meeting to install speed monitoring devices in Freshford, the Community Speed Watch Group (CSW) request the PC to pursue this matter actively.

Ian Barnes, Chairman LSPC, has offered to lend Freshford its two monitoring units. These can be placed in various locations around the village to enable data to be recorded on the actual speeds of vehicles. Suggested locations are the High Street, Church Lane, Freshford Lane and Park Corner. One of our members is very happy to liaise with Ian Barnes and put up the monitoring equipment. Ideally, we can do this soon after the May PC meeting provided that we get the go-ahead from the PC.

The CSW is willing to install the monitoring units as a temporary measure. Once data have been gathered, the next step would be the purchase of radar controlled speed units that incorporate the actual speed of approaching vehicles and 'smiley face' signage.

Given the PC's current shortage of funds, and the need for radar controlled speed units to be installed as soon as possible, perhaps additional methods of funding —FLiSCA, for instance — might be considered. CSW would be happy to apply to FLiSCA for a grant to get things started. LSPC has gained much experience in the use of various speed monitoring devices and has purchased units from Pandora and Westcotec. Cheaper radar controlled speed units — those that simply flash up the speed — are not worth the cost, but LSPC would be happy to advise.

The first step, however, is to make use of Limpley Stoke's loan of the speed monitoring units. We would like the implementation of this request be an Agenda item at the May PC meeting so that CSW can get the monitoring equipment installed as soon as possible.

With the prospect of an increase of traffic, often in a hurry, heading through Freshford for the pub or the river, might it also be possible for the PC to request B&NES Highways to repaint all the existing 20mph roundels on the road surfaces. A new roundel on the corner at the Manor end of the Hugh Street would also act as a timely reminder of the speed limit for vehicles having come up the hill.

John Jenkins

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