

FRESHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

12 December 2022

Report for Highways and Transport

This is an evaluation of the three suppliers from whom I have obtained quotations for radar speed Sign for Freshford.

Acceptance Criteria

When evaluating the options, I have considered the following factors that I believe would be appropriate for Freshford:

- To minimise the cost
- To have the option for solar power; although the manufacturers quote 7 – 10 days for battery replacement, I have been advised by BANES that on a busy road the batteries run out as quickly as 4 days, so it would add a considerable burden to one or two councillors to maintain the speed sign.
- To be mobile, we need the option of moving between sites, to keep motorists on their guard and more likely to comply.
- To have the ability to collect data via iOS or Windows. This will provide critical evidence to share with BANES of traffic non-compliance. It will provide far more data than SpeedWatch has been able to capture.
- With comprehensive data of the non-compliance, we could invite the police motorcycle with speed camera to attend to capture (& fine) motorists exceeding 20 mph which would soon have an impact in improving road safety in the village.
- An ability to secure the Radar Speed Sign to a post, to prevent theft or vandalism.

Appraisal of each product

Pandora

- Cost with solar is **£3,595**.
- Solar is available, at an additional cost of £340, included in above cost.
- Limpley Stoke chose this product and have successfully moved it from site to site (though they use the battery option).
- For additional £250 Collected data, such as average traffic volume and average speeds, can then be downloaded via the USB lead provided, to a laptop PC and takes just a few seconds.
- Options available to secure to a post and lock using the Spigot bracket system.

Elan City_Wilberforce House, Station Road, London NW4 4QE

- The product is called **Evolis**
- The cost with Solar option is **£2,250**.
- The cost with battery option is **£2,200**.
- Assume that it can be moved around relatively easily.
- Connects to laptop via Bluetooth or USB.
- The data analysis software (Evograph) contains visual representations of the following data:
 - Average Speeds - Maximum Speeds - Quantity of Vehicles - Distribution of the Quantity of Vehicles within specified speed ranges - Percentiles - A summary of the data.
- Without the 2 batteries the radar itself weighs 8kg.
- With solar we would have to move the solar panel which renders it slightly less portable. Elan City recommend battery option for regular portability.
- We will need to source 2x Jubilee Clips (pole straps) for the radar and 3 for the solar panel to strap the mounting hardware to the column.

Start Safety Drury Lane, Martin Hussingtree, Worcestershire WR3 8TD

Solar: Basic Cost £3,405.88

- 1 x SID Vario
- 1 x Post mounting bracket
- 1 x battery
- 1 x charger
- 1 x large padlock
- 1 x small padlock
- 2 x Tamtorque clips
- 1 x Tamtorque driver bit
- 1 x memory stick containing software and manuals
- 1 x RS232 cable

Battery: Basic Cost £3,052.94

- 1 x SID Vario
- 1 x solar panel assembly
- 1 x Post mounting bracket
- 1 x battery
- 1 x large padlock
- 1 x small padlock
- 4 x Tamtorque clips
- 1 x Tamtorque driver bit
- 2 x universal channel clamps
- 1 x memory stick containing software and manuals
- 1 x RS232 cable

- Packaging & delivery included in quotation
- Data download is available via USB to Windows or Android (not iOS). The data recorded by the ViaApp will be variables such as: speeds of vehicles and time of day alongside the speed of the passing vehicle.
- For more permanent applications it can be mounted on to signposts or lamp posts using a mounting bracket. The heavy-duty mounting bracket can be made in all sizes upon request.
- Stealth mode - Works as a recording device only without displaying anything to road users
- Dual direction - can monitor traffic flow in both directions
- Free demonstration of the product is available with a site visit.

Pole location problems

Most of the suitable available locations are BT or SSEN telegraph poles. I have inquired of both, and neither will (officially) allow anything to be fixed to their poles. This leaves us two alternatives:

- Existing BANES provisioned poles, speed signs or bus stops.
- Adding extra street furniture with pole provisioned by Highways Engineer, notionally charged at £200.

The bus stop on Freshford Lane would be ideal but the pole needs to be replaced with a 5m pole, which BANES will replace for free, if this can be done by the Highways Inspector Team. I will take this forward.

Another ideal location is the pole on the left of Freshford Lane just before the School, but by then cars will have sped down the Lane.

Other locations at councillor's recommendation – Staples Hill for example?

Supplier Recommendation

This is for collective decision.

The first decision is solar or battery. In order to reduce inordinate work for one or two councillors to remove, recharge and replace batteries, I would strongly recommend the solar options.

From a cost perspective it is obvious that Elan City is by far the cheapest option and well within our budget, already provisionally approved in October. Reading through the documentation from each supplier, they all seem to offer very similar capabilities.

A benefit with Pandora is that Limpley Stoke PC has successfully installed it at several locations, so may be able to assist with any issues. All suppliers offer support, so this may not be a factor.

If our remit from the residents is to provide this service at minimum cost, then our decision would be to choose Evolis from Elan City.

We could ask Start Safety to provide a free demonstration on site.

Julian Carpenter