

WHPC Meeting 7th February 2023

Item 23/049

WHPC VAS - Review of 2022 Data

VAS Data Analysis 2022

Some observations from the data

WHPC has two Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) recording speed data which are moved every two weeks to different sites within the village. One device records data at two sites on the B3180 in both directions (4 sets of data) and the other device records data at 4 sites within the village, one of which is in both directions (5 sets of data). Two village sites are within the advisory 20mph zone and the rest are in the statutory 30mph limit. The VAS devices are just to record data and to flash a warning to speeding vehicles. There is no enforcement provision.

There are occasional anomalies in the data which give some distorted statistics out of sync with the expected trend. For example, if there are road works or an obstructing parked vehicle this will temporarily slow traffic. Also, the speed data is recorded in 5mph bands, so a vehicle travelling at 30.6mph will be recorded in the 35mph band. For this reason the report shows the percentage of traffic over 30mph and over 35mph to give some perspective (and 20mph and 25mph for the 20mph zone). Bearing these factors in mind I make the following observations:

- Traffic going north on the B3180 after coming through the narrows before Tipton Cross is slower than traffic going south from the Daisymount direction.
- There are recording sites at each end of the B3180 (Little Stockleigh at the northern end towards Daisymount and Ridge House at the southern end towards Tipton Cross). Traffic slows slightly as it moves along the B3180 through the village but is faster north to south than south to north.
- Traffic volumes on the B3180 are slightly higher coming from Daisymount heading south than in the other direction, and not surprisingly are higher in both directions in the summer months.
- The site on Bendarroch Road at Moorlands faces traffic in both directions. Vehicles coming down the road are travelling faster than those coming up. The uphill gradient and the 20mph zone a little further down from the device site are probable explanations. Speeds are generally not excessive although there are occasional speeds of 50mph or more recorded here.
- The site at the junction of West Hill Road and Bendarroch Road (The Vee) is the start of the 20mph zone. Traffic coming from Ottery St Mary will start to slow when it reaches this junction but the device will be recording speeds of approaching traffic still in the 30mph zone.
- More worrying is the data for the War Memorial site on West Hill Road within the 20mph zone. Traffic approaching up the hill from the McColls direction is largely ignoring the mph advisory limit. Over a quarter is exceeding 25mph.

Decisions for Council

1. Do you want to share this information with Community Speed Watch and/or any other organisations?
2. Are there any 'quick fixes' to try to slow traffic in the short term?
3. What other measures can/should be undertaken to address the ongoing problems of speeding traffic and who will do the work involved. Scope for a Working Group?

Cllr Margaret Piper January 2023