

Community Speed Watch (CSW) – Snape -2022

For over three years now Snape has been running one of the County's many CSW volunteer groups and we have occasionally been asked why we bother; so it is worth setting out some of the background and what we have learnt over that time. Over periods of lockdown we were unable to operate as we had to follow police guidance to stop operating for periods.

As with any scheme the police came and assessed appropriate sites, carried out checks on those who volunteered to help and then provided training. We operate on Church Road ((B1069) at various approved sites and also on the Farnham Road (A1094) near to the garage.

We originally shared kit with other parishes but the lack of regular access prompted us as a parish to buy our own equipment. We used money that had been raised locally and donated. Our own kit has enabled us to carry out speed checks around about twice a week at various times, including very early in the morning. We are probably one of the most active groups in the County according to our police colleagues. We have recently acquired a second full kit so we intend in the near future to occasionally operate at two sites at the same time as on a number of occasions drivers slow as they pass the check but then speed off.

When we do record someone speeding (above what the police regard as reasonable) we forward that information to the police centrally. Thereafter the police decide on whatever action is appropriate, dependent on the recorded speed.

On a positive note, the vast majority of motorists are very supportive and many regular drivers now wave and give active encouragement to the volunteers. All the volunteers have found those shows of support as really positive. Yes occasionally we continue to have had some motorists, (speeders and others) who are to put it politely, less supportive but they have been in tiny numbers and any negativity is far outweighed by the overwhelming encouragement. Interestingly walkers and cyclists also make many positive comments when passing.

The support and encouragement within the community and from those passing through is greatly appreciated so thank you.

If anyone wishes to help by volunteering then please contact our parish clerk
snapecp.clerk@gmail.com

The more volunteers the more visible we can be as a group and the greater the impact on speeding and safety in the village.

Tim Beach