



2023

Speed Awareness Survey



Sonia Frost, Clerk
Kettleburgh Parish Council
2/12/2023



Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

Introduction and Process

Many country villages now see highway problems and in particular speeding vehicles as an important issue. Kettleburgh Parish Council wanted to understand how widespread concern was in its area. It committed in principle to a project to address any widespread and serious concern in partnership with other authorities. This survey was the start of the process.

The survey was conducted as a questionnaire on a single page, with seven questions. It was promoted in the Parish Council Minutes, on the KPC noticeboard, by word of mouth, and on the website and hand delivered to all residences in the parish. Residents could return it to the Clerk by scanning and emailing, or post, or collection by a councillor.

The survey consisted of both open and closed questions, to seek a better understanding of the community's thoughts, concerns, and experiences of traffic in the village. It also included opportunities for respondents to include freeform thoughts and comments. All answers were anonymous allowing respondents to include personal information if they wished. A total of 45 completed surveys were received.

Summary of findings

Speed Indicator Devices had the greatest support, with 33 respondents in favour, and 5 against. The perception was that they worked well in other locations and could be easily moved and were proven to raise awareness in drivers.

Number Plate ANPR/TVA was also popular, with 22 in favour and 12 Not, as there was no cost to the village and offenders are identified.

Low rise bumps that fit across both sides of the road were supported by 15 respondents, while 22 were against. They were felt to be too noisy, disruptive and to punish the innocent. Most were not in favour of more street furniture.

Square section rubber bumps were supported by 10 respondents, with 23 against. Thought to be noisy, cause congestion [they also cause pollution] due to acceleration and deceleration, and generally disruptive.

Speed tables and warning rumble strips, supported by 10 respondents but 20 were against. On the basis that they were ineffective, ignored, and punished the innocent.

More frequent Safe Cam attendance (Police Van) was supported by 9 respondents, but 20 said no. It would need a strong case with evidence from a Data Monitoring Box by Suffolk County Council, but it was acknowledged that it was an effective temporary intervention, but not a permanent solution.

Well signed Road Chicanes at the entrance to the village. Least popular, with 25 against and 7 supporting. Views expressed that they could work, but only where properly indicated rights of way are marked. But could cause increased pollution with idling cars, noise, and issues with agricultural vehicles.



Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

Analysis of speeding issues

There was insufficient appetite for any intrusive physical intervention. In the longer term, should there be greater evidence of speeding, interventions such as chicanes or other fixed devices could be funded by Community Infrastructure Levy funds (CIL) arising from the approved housing development in The Street. However, specific consultation with the whole village would be required before such funds could be spent for that purpose.

There was not compelling evidence from the qualitative data of a major speeding problem. On that basis the next step must be to capture quantitative data. This can be done by deployment of a Speed Data monitoring box from Suffolk County Council (SCC). This would be placed in one or more locations, to measure the volume and speed of traffic. This resulting information would inform the case for expenditure on interventions. A grant to cover the expense of a box has already been secured from SCC.

The most likely intervention if the measured data along with these survey results demonstrates the need, is a Speed Indication Device (SID). Given that there is a general problem with speeding through Suffolk villages, many now have these in place. The majority, rented from SCC, act as reminder prompts, warning of the driver's speed, which is proven to reduce the numbers speeding through a village. There is the option to purchase a SID but this is seldom done.

SCC also runs more advanced rental schemes, such as ANPR and TVAS. Both schemes are available to enrol with and require no funding or ongoing administration from volunteers within the community as do self-owned SIDs.

Enrolling with the ANPR scheme would seem to be the most economic and effective option, as this form of SID will capture vehicle registration and speed. Although that may not directly result in prosecution for speeding, such devices probably have a greater deterrent effect because drivers identified receive a police officer 'awareness' letter.

Recommendations

1. Formally request the Vehicle Speed Data Monitoring Box. Ideally a face-to-face meeting with a Highways representative to determine where a SID can be located and where recording devices will be best placed. Request SCC data from other relevant data monitoring sites in recent years. Collate results to inform next steps and any investment.
2. Highways maintenance – a lead councillor to increase vigilance in checking and reporting via SCC online tool, any broken collapsed surface, and potholes. Raise awareness of the Highways Reporting Tool and consider reviewing the effectiveness of reported issues.
3. Clerk to check guidance for the correct/constrained routes for HGV's and recommend any action needed.



Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

4. Planning Applications to have attention drawn to the need for pedestrian safety, regarding pavements and access to safe routes around the village. Is there scope for a pavement opposite the cottages to run alongside the allotments.
5. A councillor to take the lead on footpaths, marshalling volunteers to check maintenance, walk them regularly, and ensure any not marked on the Definitive Map are noted and action taken to have them added (process described on village website). Encourage residents to use paths.
6. Explore Village Gateway awareness improvements. These mark the entrances to the village. Significantly increasing the visibility of the village boundaries and thereby awareness of them with new signage will help compliance with the speed limit (see image of Yelling, below.) This could readily be funded by CIL money, or potentially a grant if wanted more urgently.
7. Explore whether Speed Limits can be extended beyond the Village Gateways.
8. Seek advice from Highways on what can be done to reduce speed specifically on the bend by the Village Hall, possibly consider renewed road markings and signage.



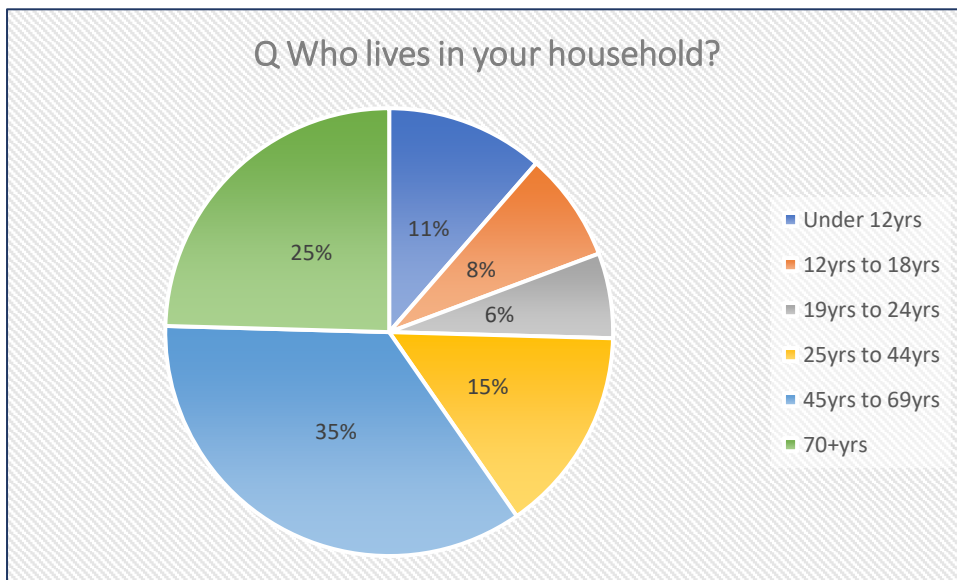


Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

Annexe - Detailed Results

Question 1 Who lives in your household?

East Suffolk Council Village Profile for Kettleburgh tells us that the population in 2019 was 231, and there were 120 dwellings. The questionnaire was delivered by hand to all dwellings, and 45 questionnaires were received completed. The number of residents covered by the 45 responses was 114. The response rate was 37.5%. The age breakdown of the households is shown below:



Question 2 and 6 Is there a particular Street or location in the village that you think is most affected by the speed of vehicles? Please say where and show the areas on the map.

Summary of responses indicated in order of concern:

- Lings Field to VH
- T-Junction to the Farm entrance towards Brandeston
- T-Junction
- Easton Road Hill
- T-Junction to Easton Road.

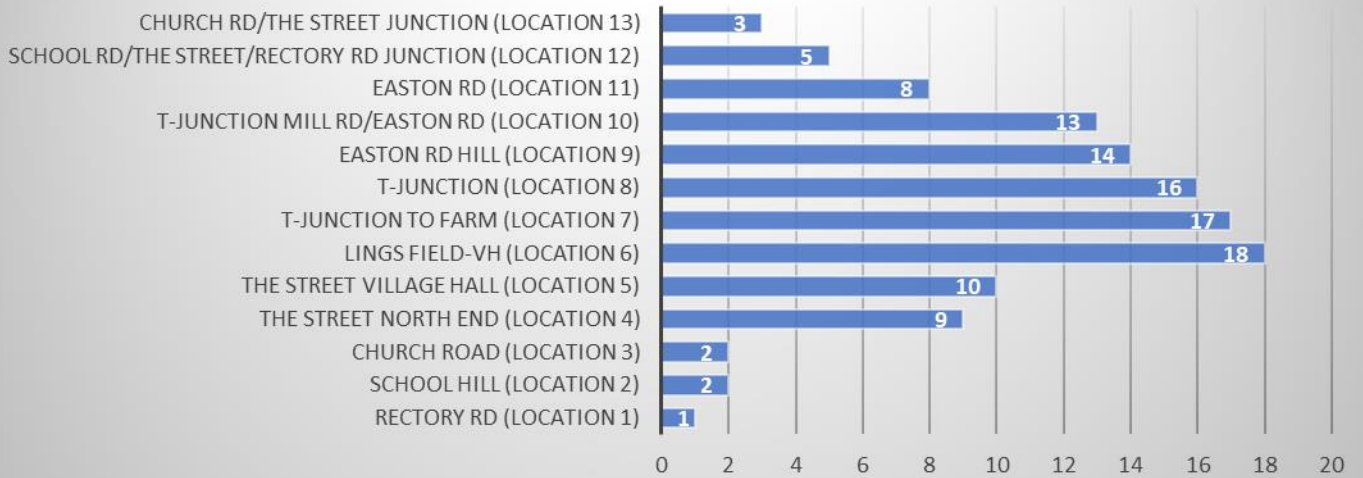
32 respondents expressed concern at speeding vehicles some or all the time, although 3 respondents felt there was no problem, and one felt that there had been a problem, but that had recently improved. It is evident that the perception is that the whole of the village is affected to some degree.



Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

Reported Speeding Locations

Q2 and 6 Is there a particular Street or location in the village or surrounding area that you think is most affected by the speed of vehicles?





Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

Representative comments from respondent regarding problem locations:

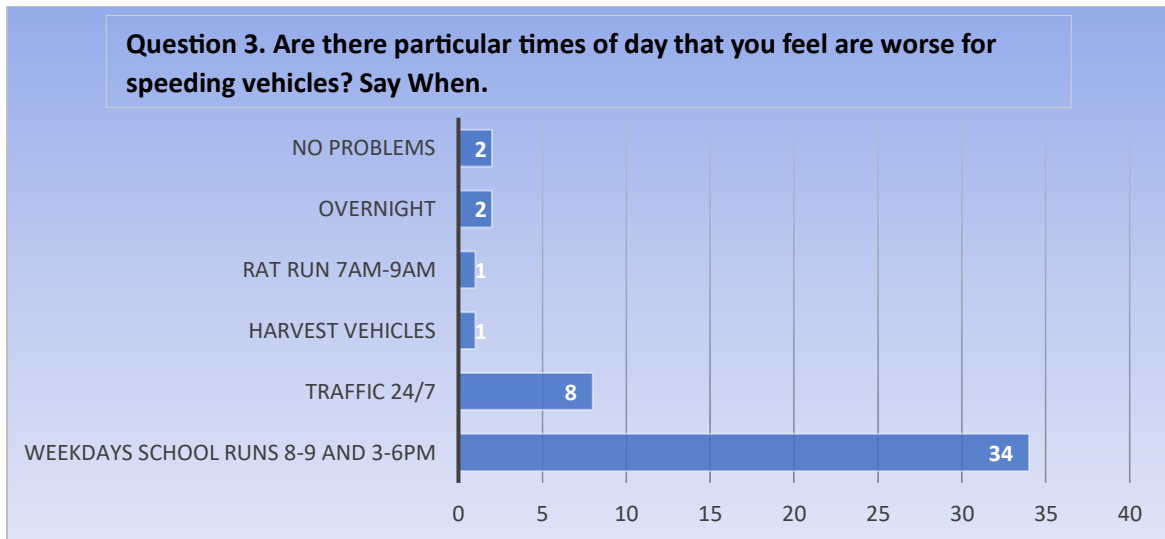
- Lower part of Kettleburgh Street and Brandeston to Easton Road.
- Low Street to Church Farm driveway to shared carriageway, to access footpaths.
- Lings Field to Village Hall, also due to a shared carriageway and blind bend in road.
- Low Street (road from Easton to Brandeston).
- Low Street coming into the village from Brandeston and approach to junction with the bend near the Village Hall.
- School Hill cars coming down at speed and cutting the corner, dangerous for vehicles exiting Church Road. Easton Road, Windy Ridge towards Kettleburgh Village Gates and to Brandeston.
- People underestimate the bend on The Street.
- Especially dangerous for bikes.
- Brandeston to Easton Road, where it passes through Kettleburgh.
- Blind bend by Village Hall.
- Low Street in its entirety.
- Bend at Junction of Rectory Rd.
- Opposite Moyse's and Copyhold Cottage.
- Speeding vehicles coming round bend of Chequers Public House is very dangerous for pedestrians.
- Outside 30mph limited areas. Those areas should be extended to include all residences.
- The Street and Kettleburgh Rd, Low Street and Easton Rd.
- No problem and no data to support it. I would object if taxpayers' money was spent on this including SCC SIDS.
- The Street. Also entrance to village from Brandeston and Easton.
- Corner opposite Red Roofs- several near collisions.
- Easton Rd nears Mill Lane Junction.
- Bend in The Street.
- Speeding throughout the village, but particularly bad in Low Street as 30mph limit is a short one so drivers ignore it.
- To Honeysuckle Cottage to the Fieldings on The Street.
- Road connecting Brandeston and Easton through Kettleburgh. Also, narrow 'neck' on The Street where parked cars, a blind corner and no pavements is dangerous.
- Top of School Hill and Junction of Mill Lane.
- No problems.
- Easton Rd to Brandeston Rd.
- Used to be speeding problem in The Street but not so bad recently.



Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

Question 3 Are there particular times of day that you feel are worse for speeding vehicles? Say when.

Respondents were asked to indicate YES or NO and could give multiple answers.



34 Respondents noted that the school run and work vehicles on weekdays were a significant problem. There was also an awareness of traffic 24/7, not just specific periods. Harvest vehicles were identified as a problem, but limited to specific times of year, and traffic overnight.

Two respondents raised the issue of a possible 'rat-run' between A14 and A12, associated with perceived high speeds in the early mornings.

Two respondents said they did not think there was a problem.

Representative respondents' comments:

- Brandeston school run and commuter rush hour.
- Weekdays 8am-9am when Brandeston Hall is open.
- Individual vehicles throughout the day and night.
- At commuting times, The Street is part of a 'rat-run' between A14 and A12 and particularly high speeds in the early hours.
- Problem all day, peak times 7-9am, and 4-6pm
- School run and 4.30pm onwards and 'white van' traffic.
- Work start and finish times.
- 8.15am -9am.
- Evening and night.
- Worse in the evenings and at night but a problem throughout the day.
- 8am-9am and 15.30pm-17.00 pm.
- Early and afternoon rush hours. Harvest agricultural traffic. School run, work vehicles and Brandeston Hall.



Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

- *Rat-run, 07.00am-09.00am, 16.00hrs-18.00 hrs.*
- *School drop offs and harvest time.*
- *No.*
- *No.*
- *8.00hrs-9.00hrs and 16.00 hrs -17.00hrs.*
- *Morning and afternoon school runs and commuting traffic.*
- *School term, mornings, and commuting traffic.*
- *School term, mornings and evenings, early mornings and overnight.*
- *Mornings, many vehicles going to Brandeston Hall, 08.15hrs-08.45hrs and work, traffic, and late afternoon, but still a problem all day.*

Question 4 Do you and your family feel safe walking and cycling in the village. Any comments/incidents?

Respondents were asked to indicate 'YES or NO' and add comments. 25 respondents said they did not feel safe, and 11 said they felt safe but were very careful.

Key points made were:

- *Walking felt unsafe and risky outside the 30 mph limits, and in areas where there are no pavements and the banks high, giving no opportunity to get off the road and away from traffic.*
- *Road edges are frequently broken away, presumed damage from heavy vehicles.*
- *Roadside parking on The Street was seen as a possible advantage, in slowing traffic.*
- *Residents are put off walking at night due to the absence of pavements.*
- *Residents do cycle but are edgy and feel it is risky.*
- *A heavy reliance on and high use of Footpaths to navigate the village, as walking on the roadside is perceived as unsafe.*
- *Pedestrians have experienced offensive/aggressive behaviour from drivers.*

Representative comments by respondents:

- *No, I do not feel safe.*
- *No Children don't feel safe walking along the Framlingham Rd.*
- *No Not safe for my mother to walk up and down The Street, due to traffic speed and potholes.*
- *No, we limit cycling/walking in the village to the shortest access point to a footpath from our house.*
- *YES, During daylight hours.*
- *No, we don't feel safe walking on the front of our property. Numerous near misses with cars and one crash, narrowly missing a person - speed a main problem.*



Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

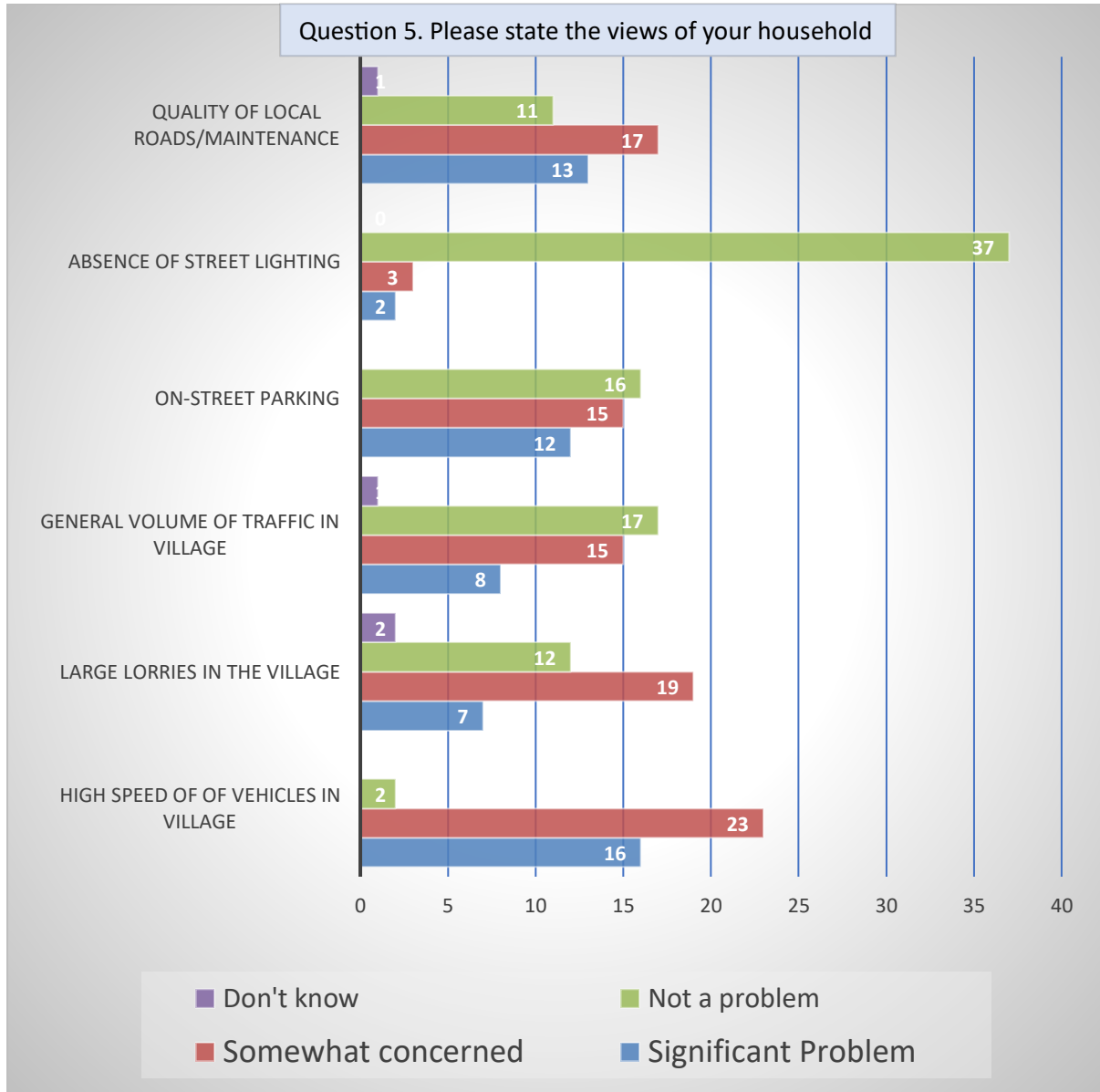
- *No, a few close passes when walking near the Village Hall. Speed of vehicles travelling through the village does not allow for parked cars and pedestrians and reduced visibility on bend.*
- *No, Difficult to walk with dog and at night on roads with no pavement, especially Brandeston Rd.*
- *No, No pavements.*
- *No, rather use off-road countryside footpaths.*
- *Yes*
- *Yes*
- *No, no pavements between residential areas of village.*
- *No, too much traffic.*
- *Yes, mostly as we avoid school run times.*
- *No, with young children the speed of some vehicles is a concern. Generally safe apart from the poor state of the road edges that have been damaged by heavy vehicles.*
- *No, not really, no pavements.*
- *Yes, Ok.*
- *No, walking between Street farm and the Village Hall can be perilous.*
- *No Nearly knocked down by speeding cars. Drivers seem totally unaware of pedestrians coming down the hill.*
- *No, particularly parts of The Street that have no pavement. On-Street parking helps to slow the traffic.*
- *Mostly-anywhere there is a footpath-not safe in low Street.*
- *No, I feel least safe when walking outside the areas covered by a speed limit, especially when there is no grass verge. Had been gestured at for waking along the side of the road.*
- *No, Speed of traffic at along Low Street into the village makes it unsafe as no footpaths.*
- *Yes, never had any problem walking around the roads.*
- *Not happy walking at night where there are no footpaths.*
- *No, definitely not safe crossing from our house to our parking space.*
- *Yes, generally safe.*
- *No, we only use footpaths, it is not safe walking along the Street.*
- *No, walking is risky as no pavements and roads are narrow.*
- *Yes*
- *No, Areas without paths can be tricky.*
- *No, we enjoy walking and cycling in the village however always on edge regarding speeding cars.*
- *Yes, generally safe, but where pavement disappears is less safe.*
- *No, lots of near misses, cars up verges etc.*
- *Mostly safe, though narrow roads without pavements (see map) not pleasant to walk or cycle.*
- *No problem.*
- *Yes I feel safe.*
- *No, No pavements along The Street.*



Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

Question 5. Please state the views of your household about the following:

Respondents were asked to indicate if they felt each issue was a significant problem, somewhat concerned, not a problem or didn't know, high speed of vehicles in the village, large, general volume of traffic, On street parking, absence of street lighting and quality of local roads.



Key points in order of concern

Of most concern was the high speed of vehicles the village. 39 respondents were either somewhat concerned or felt it was a significant problem, while only 2 did not. One respondent noted that cars parked on the corner of Church Rd blocking visibility had resulted in a near miss.



Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

Next concern was the quality of the roads, 30 respondents were somewhat or significantly concerned while 11 were not and 1 didn't know. Deep potholes causing cars to swerve, opposite Maple House was a typical example.

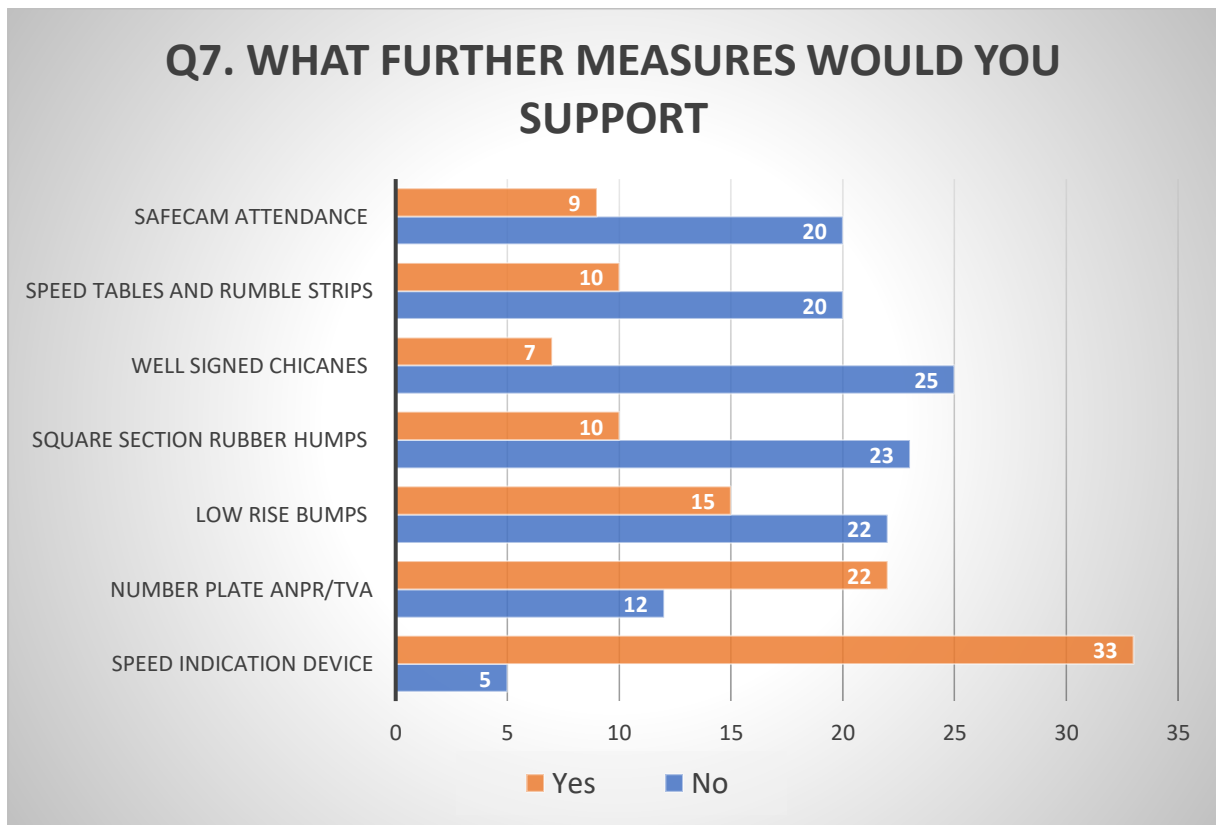
Large lorries were of significant or somewhat concern to 26 respondents, not for 14 respondents. Farm vehicles were noted as a hazard negotiating narrow lanes, although this was accepted as a short-term problem at harvest time.

On-street parking was of significant or somewhat concern to 27 respondents but felt not to be a problem for 16 respondents, as a comment explained that it slowed traffic down.

Absence of street lighting was felt not to be a significant or somewhat of a problem for 37 respondents, and potentially a beneficial effect, while 5 respondents felt it was a problem.

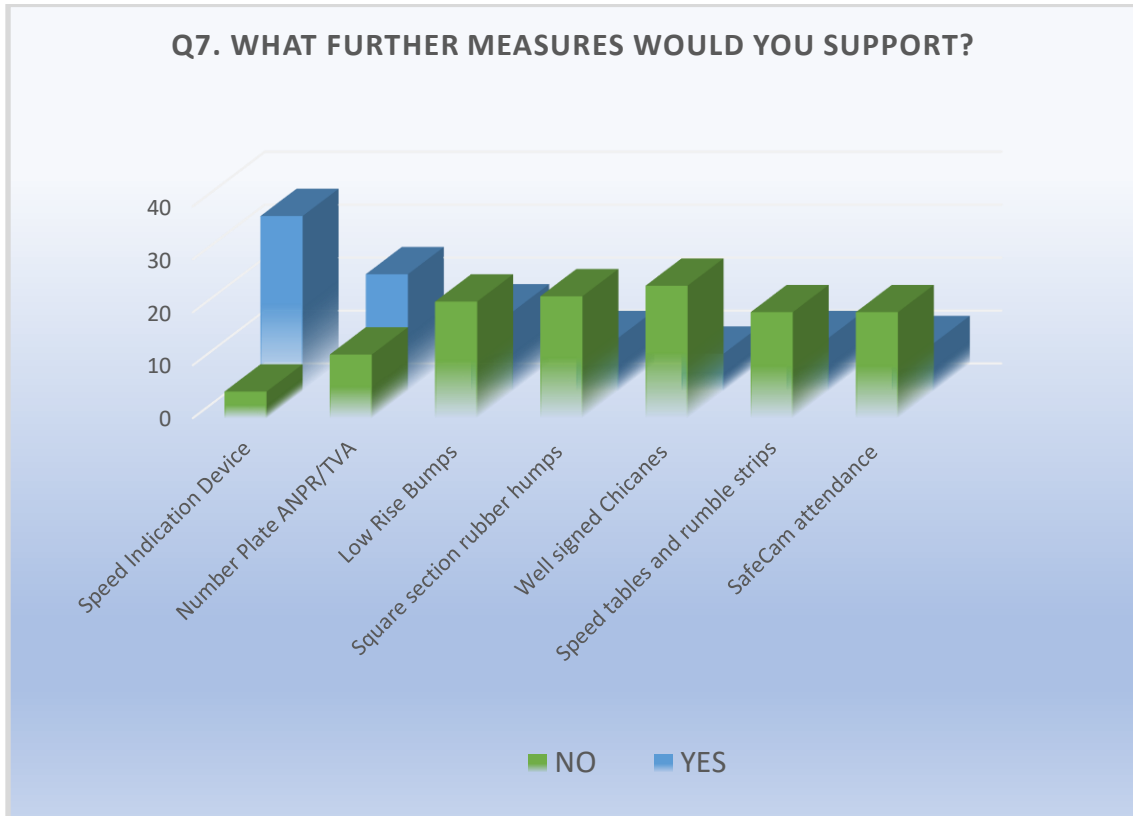
[Question 6 Answers to this question are covered with Q2]

Q7 We all want to maintain the rural integrity of the village, and we already have Village Gates, but what further measures would you support to address speeding? Please tick all that apply.





Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey



Representative respondents' comments:

Police Safecam:

- *Not needed, Seems like a 2nd stage approach and not a permanent solution.*
- *Not unless there is data support.*
- *This will prevent speeding.*
- *Follow-up with ANPR if speed violations are high. Don't think we have enough of a problem for police involvement.*
- *Previously police have said there is nowhere to stand safely.*
- *Occasionally police enforcement modifies behaviour.*

Speed Tables and warning rumble strips:

- *Not needed*
- *Didn't work in Brandeston*
- *Good idea to warn drivers but not to stop drivers.*
- *Not convinced of their effectiveness*
- *Mostly ignored and punishes the innocent.*

Well signed road chicanes at the entrance of the village:

- *Possibly depending on location.*
- *Not working well in neighbouring village.*



Kettleburgh Parish Council Speed Awareness Survey

- *Increases pollution with idling cars, increased noise, issues with agricultural vehicles.*
- *Roads not wide enough, they will cause more accidents.*
- *May be reinstating the pavement between the Green and Lings Field would be good as it would give safe access for all villagers, and slow traffic as it would make the road narrower.*
- *You only have to see what has happened in the neighbouring village to see that chicanes don't work.*
- *Useless for wide vehicles like pea viners and combines.*

Square section rubber Bumps:

- *Not needed, these don't slow larger vehicles down.*
- *Too noisy punishes the innocent.*
- *Noise and congestion due to noise deceleration and acceleration*
- *Additional street furniture would increase traffic noise.*

Low Rise rubber bump that goes across both sides of the road:

- *Possibly, depending on location*
- *Not needed*
- *Not necessary, more trouble than benefit*
- *Where is the data to support the need? Not in favour of street furniture.*
- *Good idea providing they are well signposted.*
- *At entrance to village, disruptive, causes confusion, e.g., neighbouring village.*

Number plate, ANPR/TVA

- *Expensive and not needed. Excellent idea-ANPR used widely, and drivers know they can be traced.*
- *Will tackle persistent offenders.*
- *Will generate the information needed to justify action.*
- *Definitely the best solution as more hard repeat offenders, but drivers do slow down and then speed up.*
- *Best option, no cost to villagers and offenders are identified.*
- *Too Big Brother!*
- *Good to inform drivers they are speeding.*
- *Speed Indication Device that can move periodically.*
- *Speed Indication Devices that can be moved periodically:*
- *Makes me check my speed!*
- *They seem to work well in other villages.*
- *Best second option, Effective*
- *Good Idea as a deterrent.*
- *Support anything as something needs to be done.*
- *Anything to reduce speed and dangerous driving.*