

## Longstanton Speedwatch – Almost a Year In Review

As many of you have probably noticed, it is almost a year since we re-formed the Longstanton Community Speedwatch team, and restarted the Police and Parish Council supported initiative aimed at highlighting and educating drivers about speed within the village.

It has been a very busy time, and, although we've been hampered somewhat by the weather at times, and other obstacles (like abandoned cars), the team has run 20+ sessions since re-forming at various locations within the village.

### ***So, what have we learned?***

Well, there was a perception by many that certain locations were plagued by speeding motorists – expressed both indirectly to the Parish Council and the Police, and directly to the team while we've been out and about.

Our recordings show that, yes, obviously there are speeding drivers, but that we are below the national average (5% of motorists speeding). That said, we have recorded some people at speeds massively in excess of the 30mph limit, and frustratingly, some repeat offenders – some of whom may have had their last reminder about their speed hand-delivered by a Police Officer who will have addressed the issue with them directly.

On the whole though, from the number of people that have stopped to chat, we've had a warm reception from the village, and people are glad to see efforts being made to tackle a difficult problem.

As the village grows and changes we hope to be able to adapt, adding new locations as the traffic flow through the village changes (the Airfield Road closure will doubtless drive more motorists up School Lane, Hattons Road and Home Farm Road), and we are keen to hear from residents of areas they feel are hot-spots for speeding vehicles.

As we are all volunteers, we can only be as effective as the size of our group (currently 5 people). We'd really like to be out and about more, and that means that we are always looking for volunteers to come and help. Each session lasts from 1-2 hours and is an opportunity to help support the village and make it a safer place. So, come and join us – have a chat and get involved. Training is simple and only takes a couple of hours, and once complete you get to be part of a friendly team of villagers whom really want to make a difference to our village for the benefit of us all.

We are always happy to chat while we are out in the village, but can always be reached by the email box ([csw.longstanton@gmail.com](mailto:csw.longstanton@gmail.com)).

Your Community Speedwatch Team