

Southrop Parish Council's views on traffic calming measures

There has been considerable debate over the years on possible traffic calming measures for the village:

These include: -

- 20 mph speed limit
- Smiley faces
- Speed bumps
- Traffic "one-way priority" schemes

The first of these was introduced some years ago.

The first two have limited effect for those determined to speed.

The last two can be effective but come with the following disadvantages:

- Both require street lighting, causing light pollution.
- Both would be expensive and would be unattractive, giving the village a "suburban" feel.
- Speed bumps also create issues:
 - a. Noise and air pollution.
 - b. Vibration which has been known to cause structural damage to buildings near the road.

Traffic one-way priority schemes have also been found actually to increase the accident rate in some cases (vehicles accelerating hard to clear the priority section before the vehicle with priority arrives).

The SPC is not in favour of these schemes, instead seeking effective, cheaper and less intrusive measures: -

- Keep verges well kempt – this makes drivers aware there may be pedestrians.
- Improve footpaths and keep them clear of overhanging vegetation so pedestrians walk on the footpath not on the road.
- Encourage more voluntary policing of the 20mph speed limit.
- Ask Highways to repaint the road markings at the dangerous junction by Southrop Farm.

Southrop Parish Council
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