

## **Results from Parish Traffic Survey Carried out in May 2021**

Following a number of traffic concerns raised formally and informally by parishioners to members of Church Pulverbatch Parish Council it was agreed at the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to set up a Working Group to investigate and report back to the full Council.

The volunteer Working Group members were;

Paul Taylor (Chair)

Penny Whitley

Leonie Clarkson

David Taylor

The Working Group recommended that a questionnaire should be circulated to all households within the parish in order to better understand any significant issues or concerns. The format of the questionnaire was approved by the Parish Council at its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

155 questionnaires were distributed with 48 being returned, giving a 31% response rate.

Respondents were requested to rank their concerns 0 to 3, with 0 being 'not concerned' and 3 being 'very concerned'. Some other questions simply gave the choice of 'yes' or 'no'.

The summary table on the following page shows the responses in the form of a percentage.

Where there was no response a score of 0 'not concerned' has been given.

For simplicity, the scores of 2 and 3 i.e., 'concerned' and 'very concerned' have been added together.

<b>Traffic issues/concerns</b>	<b>% Concerned/Very Concerned</b>
Volume of vehicles	39
Size of vehicles	81
Speed of vehicles	95
<b>Which type of vehicle is of a major concern?</b>	<b>% Concerned/Very Concerned</b>
Cars	51
Vans	64
Lorries	75
Agricultural vehicles	85
<b>Who do you think is most at risk?</b>	<b>% Concerned/Very Concerned</b>
Horse riders	85
Pedestrians	85
Cyclists	75
Other drivers	58
<b>Score the following potential issues.</b>	<b>% Concerned/Very Concerned</b>
The general speed of cars	81
The general speed of agricultural vehicles	89
The general speed of commercial vehicles	77
The volume of cars	41
The volume of agricultural vehicles	64
The volume of commercial vehicles	51
Mud left on roads by agricultural vehicles	60
The size of farm vehicles	79
<b>Which locations in the Parish concern you most?</b>	<b>% Concerned/Very Concerned</b>
Road through Church Pulverbatch	43
Road through Castle Pulverbatch	66
Road through Wrentnall	35
Road from Cothercott to Brook Cottages	56
T junction from Newhouse lane	45
T junction from Harold's Bank	63
Shrewsbury Road approaching Longden Common	47
Right hand turn to the White Horse pub	67
	<b>% Yes</b>
<b>Would you support the reduction in speed limit in any of the above</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>Would you support traffic calming measures in any of the above</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>Do you regularly see drivers using mobile phones when driving?</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Which of the following traffic calming measures would you support</b>	
More advisory/statutory signage	67
Features at the perimeters of our villages to mark the village entrance	75
Reduction in statutory speed limits	67
Speed bumps	31
Speed cameras	50
Illuminated signs triggered by speeding traffic	79
Do you support the Community Speed Watch Team	83
Would you be prepared to pay a small sum on your council tax	79

## Summary of Questionnaire Results

The major areas of concern were;

Speed of vehicles 95%

Size of vehicles 81%

The type of vehicle of most concern was;

Agricultural vehicles 85%

Lorries 75%

Those most at risk were considered to be;

Pedestrians 85%

Horse riders 85%

The following issues also scored highly;

General perceived speed of agricultural vehicles 89%

General perceived speed of cars 81%

General perceived speed of commercial vehicles 77%

Size of agricultural vehicles 79%

87% of responders supported the introduction of traffic calming measures

85% of responders supported the reduction in speed limits

69% of responders stated they regularly see drivers using mobile phones

Various locations in the parish were highlighted as an area of concern, with the following locations scoring highest;

Right hand turn into the White Horse pub 67%

Road through Castle Pulverbatch 66%

T junction at Harold's Bank onto the main road 63%

With regards to popular potential traffic calming measures;

83% support Community Speed Watch

79% are prepared to pay a small sum on their Council Tax to pay for traffic calming

79% support the introduction of illuminated signs

75% support features at the perimeter of our village to mark the village entrance

To take things forward the working group is proposing the following actions and seeking the support of the full council to take them forward:

- Publicise the results of the survey in the Parish Magazine and on the Parish Council website.
- Further researching the preferred traffic calming solutions, in particular the practicality

of implementation both technically and financially.

- Seeking funding to action the preferred/feasible solutions.
- Highlighting safety and speed related Highways maintenance issues that need addressing, such as white lining and signage.

Finally although issues related to all forms of traffic were highlighted in the survey responses it is clear from the results that there is a significant negative image associated with agricultural traffic.

From the results of Community Speed Watch sessions we know there is a disconnect between perceived and actual speed of agricultural vehicles (only once has a tractor been recorded at [just]over 30mph). While acknowledging that these issues are being looked at by the county wide Agricultural Governance Working Group (which includes Police and NFU representatives), the group would welcome suggestions from the local farming community as to how local residents' concerns over traffic associated with their industry might be addressed at a local level.

Paul Taylor,  
27th September 2021