

Lartington Parish Council

Community Speedwatch Special



The Council's concerns about the speed of vehicles passing through the village are well known.

Some months ago we requested that DCC monitor this. The results proved that our worries are well founded. At peak times of the day, the times when **children** in the village are most likely to be **being dropped off or picked up**, nearly **20%** of vehicles were **travelling in excess of the speed limit**.

We met with Durham Police recently to re-emphasise our concerns and to press for their support - most obviously through **Community Speedwatch** but also with **enforcement when necessary**.

We are pleased to report that the Police do recognise them - but they are shared by every other village in the Dale and a small local constabulary cannot be everywhere.

So..... we are now in possession of our very own **SWAG Bag**.



Provided by Durham Police, this contains all the equipment needed to conduct **Community Speedwatch** exercises as and when we judge fit. Operated by Police-registered volunteers, this equipment monitors the speed of vehicles passing through the village and a record is made of those observed to be travelling in excess of the limit.

Durham Police will follow this up by sending a letter to transgressors emphasising the presence of a speed limit and asking that it be observed. Speeding "tickets" are not issued and no fines are imposed - we want to **educate** rather than punish and if **no-one is caught then that is a result!**

But.....



to make this work

A team of volunteers will mean that we can operate the equipment more frequently and at the times that matter. As important, it will show that this is a **COMMUNITY** issue,

not just a Council one.

Volunteers will have to undergo a simple Police check and will be given the training needed to operate fairly straightforward equipment.

Any letters issued consequent to the exercise are sent by Durham Police, not the Parish Council or our volunteers.

Please remember that Community Speedwatch is about EDUCATION not ENFORCEMENT.

If you are prepared to help (and we hope you will be!) then please contact either:

Eric Crawford (Lead Volunteer)

**The Coachhouse,
Lartington**

01833 650748

Sharon Parsons Munn (Chair, Lartington PC)

**Postgate House
Lartington**

01833 650560

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