



SPEEDING IN MORTIMER – THE LATEST FINDINGS

Keeping our roads safe remains a priority for Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council. Over recent months, the Council has been collecting detailed traffic data using its speed monitoring equipment to build a clearer picture of speeding across the village.

The results show that while many motorists drive responsibly, speeding continues to be an issue at several locations, particularly on West End Road.

How We Monitor Speed

The Parish Council currently uses:

- Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) that display drivers' speeds and record traffic data 24 hours a day.
- A portable Speed Indicator Device (SID) used at approved locations around the village.
- An Automatic Community Speed Watch Camera, operated by trained volunteers in partnership with Thames Valley Police.

This combination allows the Council to identify speeding hotspots and monitor trends over time.

Click here to view the full report:
<https://tinyurl.com/mw9snpyv>

Key Findings

The latest monitoring highlights West End Road as the village's main speeding hotspot.

Recent data recorded:

- 81–83% of vehicles travelling above the 30mph speed limit.
- An 85th percentile speed of around 39mph, meaning 15% of drivers were travelling even faster.
- More than 150 vehicles per day exceeding 45mph in West End Road.

Other areas where speeding remains a concern include The Street near Kiln Lane, St Catherine's Hill, Hammonds Heath and Victoria Road near Groves Lea.

Continuing the Work

The Parish Council's speed monitoring programme is making a positive difference. Data shows that drivers generally slow down as they approach the Council's Vehicle Activated Signs, with average speeds reducing by around 2.3mph. Since the Automatic Community Speed Watch Camera was introduced in March 2023, more than 1,100 vehicles travelling at 36mph or above have been reported to Thames Valley Police, who issue warning letters to registered keepers.

The Parish Council will continue monitoring speeds across the village and is considering asking Thames Valley Police and West Berkshire Council to explore additional enforcement measures at the worst affected locations. By observing the speed limits, every driver can help make Mortimer's roads safer for residents, pedestrians, cyclists and all other road users.

REMINDER

Overhanging Vegetation – A Safety Reminder

During the bird nesting season, we appreciate that residents are mindful of protecting wildlife. However, public safety must always come first.

We are receiving an increasing number of reports of hedges, shrubs and trees obstructing pavements and roads. Property owners, and landowners where there is no adjacent property, are responsible for ensuring vegetation is cut back to keep footways and highways clear. This is particularly important on routes used by children walking to school, wheelchair users and those with pushchairs.

Before carrying out any work, please check carefully for active bird nests and avoid disturbing them wherever possible. Thank you for helping to keep our village safe and accessible for everyone.



WE WANT
YOU!

Volunteers Needed – Help Tackle Speeding

The Parish Council is looking for volunteers to help operate our Automatic Speed Watch Camera. The role involves setting up the camera at approved locations around the village to record vehicles exceeding the speed limit. Drivers travelling at 36mph or above in a 30mph limit are reported to Thames Valley Police, who issue warning letters to registered keepers.

No previous experience is needed, and full training will be provided. If you have a few hours to spare each month and would like to help make our roads safer, please contact the Parish Office to find out more.



DATES IN JULY

Dates:

- 9 July - Estate
- 16 July- Planning
- 16 July- Finance and General Purposes
- 30 July Full Council

Reminder – Fly Posting and Noticeboards

A reminder that fly posting around the village is not permitted. Commercial advertisements, banners and signs may only be displayed with the permission of the relevant landowner (which may be West Berkshire Council rather than the Parish Council) and may also require planning permission.

Please also remember that Parish Council noticeboards are for non-commercial community events and activities only.

