

From: Hall, Bryan, 1334  
Sent: 4 Apr 2012 15:04:22 GMT  
To: Holly Walker  
Subject: Speeding and road safety issues A615 @ Tansley

Holly,

I have now had the opportunity to review the work that we have already carried out and fully assess the situation.

I think there are two issues which have been raised and for clarity I will deal with each one individually:

**Speeding issues in the 30mph restricted area on the A615 at Tansley.**

I know that there have been complaints of speeding in Tansley village in the past but as I said at the meeting I am unaware of any recent complaints in relation to the 30mph restricted area on the main road. As a result the Matlock Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) have carried out work to try and reduce speeds in the village and this has been the subject of priority profiles.

From the enquiries I have made I know that Derbyshire County Council Highways conducted a speed survey on the A 615 near the Royal Oak PH at Tansley between the 10th and 26th November 2011. This may be linked to the pedestrian crossing issue but this survey showed that the average speed was 30.4mph, with 85% of total traffic flow not exceeding 35mph. This would tend to indicate there is no speeding problem and I understand the injury/collision history is good. On this basis the police enforcement rests with local officers i.e., Matlock patrol/response or Safer Neighbourhood officers.

As you may know we can use a number of different policing tactics to try to manage speeding on roads which can include Community Speed watch, Radar gun operated by SNT or Section officer, Radar operated by Roads Policing officers and the Casualty Reduction Enforcement Safety Team (CREST) who can attend with their mobile speed enforcement vehicles.

However all these tactics require certain safety criteria to be met to protect officers and safeguard the public. With respect to Community Speed watch I know that the criteria for safe sites is not met and therefore it would not be appropriate to use this tactic at this location. With regard to the CREST Safety camera team they have to operate at designated sites in order to satisfy various safety and legal obligations and it would not be appropriate to site such a vehicle in the 30mph area. But on three occasions in the recent past we have arranged for the CREST Safeguard Team (Speed enforcement and other traffic and crime offences/VOSA/DVLA/Customs) to operate in the 30mph area and stop vehicles exceeding the speed limit and for various other traffic and crime related matters. On these occasions the licensee of the Tavern has allowed us to use his car park but obviously this option would not be available on a regular basis. But the Safety cameras do have a designated site about a mile east of the village which is subject of regular visits from the team and this should have some effect on the overall speed of vehicles using the A615 in this area.

Having said all this you will be pleased to hear that it is possible for Section and SNT officers to use the radar gun in this area to measure speeds and conduct enforcement operations which I will be recommending following your complaint. I will update you with the results but I hope that this offer in the meantime will provide you with some reassurance that we are taking action to try to properly identify the problem and to take enforcement action to address it should we see evidence of drivers travelling at excessive speed.

**Provision of a Pedestrian Crossing**

Derbyshire County Council Highways are the authority that would provide a crossing and the demand for it would have to meet their justification criteria at this location. This would include such issues as foot traffic crossing the road, whether the road layout will allow for a crossing to be installed, road width and visibility and if these were fulfilled there would have to be a reassurance factor that it would get used and not be bypassed.

I know from my enquiries that DCC Highways have already been consulted and their response is that it is highly unlikely that a crossing could be justified at current foot crossing levels and circumstances.

However I understand that there may be a new housing development in the area and should this increase demand then it may be possible that a crossing could be justified in the future (I have no knowledge of this). If new housing were to go ahead then it would be likely that the DCC would ask for a sum of money to be used on highway improvements and a crossing could be considered. But again this crossing would have to meet the criteria around visibility and a suitable pedestrian desire line.

To move this forward I would suggest you advise your Parish Council Chair to write to DCC Highways if this has not already been done.

I do hope my response satisfies your concerns and as I have said I will keep you informed of the monitoring and enforcement activity that we undertake.

Kind regards

Bryan.

**Inspector Bryan Hall**  
South Section Inspector (Derbyshire Dales)  
B Division  
Derbyshire Constabulary  
Matlock Police Station, Bank Road, Matlock,  
Derbyshire, DE4 3NF