

## A37 Traffic Speeds in Clutton

Statement for Cabinet on Weds 4<sup>th</sup> 2013, by Rosemary Naish, Clutton Parish Council Chair.

The one topic that Clutton Parish Council receives more public concerns about than anything else is roads and road safety.

In Pensford and Temple Cloud the A37 is narrow and twisty with restricted views and is subject to 30mph speed limits. The Clutton stretch of the A37 is wide and fairly straight, and to a motorist in a hurry is very tempting. There is a 40mph limit, but in a 24 hours/ week long survey, of traffic volumes and speeds, conducted by Avon and Somerset police, in 2009, the average volumes of vehicles in a 24 hour period was just over 20,000 and the 85th percentile speed during the peak hours was around 44 - 45 mph with the speeds in excess of 70 mph recorded. Since then speeds haven't reduced but volumes of traffic have increased.

Although the A37 doesn't run through the village centre, anybody commuting to Bristol or Wells (our main commuting destinations) has to either cross the road to catch a bus, or pull out across fast moving traffic. Nowadays we have a pedestrian crossing, so getting to the bus stop or going to the pub or the football club is relatively safe, but for drivers pulling out of Cooks Hill the visibility is restricted northwards because of the cottages, and limited southwards because of the bend in the road. It makes it a difficult and sometimes very dangerous manoeuvre.

The only sure way to slow traffic down to a safe speed would be a permanent speed enforcement presence on the road - unlikely because of the cost, but a 30mph limit would go a long way to reducing speeds and would be also be cheaper.

Please take action on Councillor Sparks ' petition - it will be very well received by the villagers of Clutton, it should not cost much and most importantly it will improve safety.

Thank you.