

Safety in Numbers

Since the 5th of December the village of Ixworth has been living in the world of the very near future with the deployment of our very own Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) also known as a FIST (Flashing Indicated Speed Thingy). It has so far made its appearance in Bardwell Road near to the A&S garage and in Thetford Road at White House. In Thetford Road we have had the opportunity to use it to monitor traffic both entering and leaving the village.

We think it is fair to say that results have been very satisfactory so far and we can see the potential for improvements in road safety, especially as regards vehicles leaving the village along Thetford Road. This cunning device will tell you your speed and send you messages although I imagine that all you law-abiding citizens will only have seen it say 'Thank You.' It does have a dark side however, when in Spy Mode it looks dead but it is still watching you.

People have been telling us for some time that the worst speeding issue in Ixworth is in Stow Road, and that this applies to vehicles travelling in both directions, so why is it not operating there? We consulted with the Highways Department before buying the kit and discovered that there are only four locations in Stow Road suitable for the installation of a pole on which to mount it. The resident living nearest to any of these sites must give their permission for the pole to be installed and, unfortunately, we were unable to gain the resident's permission for any of the four.

We live in hope that we can get permission in due course but if you have concerns about Stow Road there is an alternative. The Parish Council still holds all the equipment that was used by our old Speedwatch Team. Speedwatch is operated by the residents and all it would need is enough volunteers to make it viable. If you would like to be involved in resurrecting Speedwatch please contact us on pc@ixworth.net.



Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council