

Speedwatch report May 2026

Community Speedwatch is a police initiative aimed at educating drivers and reducing speeding through 30 and 40 mph areas. The Speedwatch teams are all volunteers who report back to the police in order to enable the police to use their staff and enforcement cameras more effectively.

The teams do not enforce speeds themselves although the police use their data to feedback to drivers who go above the speed limits. Initially the police send a letter informing the driver that they were travelling too quickly through a speed restricted area. This is followed up by a strongly worded request to slow their speeds and to take more care. A third offence results in a police visit.

Before every Speedwatch session (of around an hour) the team inform the police of where they will be and how many volunteers will be on site. After each session, the results are sent to the police.

In Barton there are 13 sites which the police have designated as place for the volunteers to take speed readings.

We currently have 10 volunteers.

In the last 12 months the Speedwatch team have been out at various locations in Barton 23 times.

During those sessions a total of 303 cars were seen speeding in the village out of the 9,648 vehicles seen. This is around 1 in 30 drivers going at 35+ or 46+. Drivers going a little over 30 or over 40 are not recorded.

During times of heavy traffic, speeds are generally reduced and fewer drivers exceed the limits, but there are times and places where there is a significant problem.

Examples:

- The highest speeds recorded on Main Street were over 45 mph.
- Captains Lane has a relatively low traffic flow during the day- usually around 80 to 120 cars per hour, but 1 in 10 of the cars are going at 35 or above.
- On Efflinch Lane by the junior school at school pick up times there are always some vehicles travelling at over 35mph even though there are signs advising a 20mph limit.
- There have been no sessions in the last 12 months when there have been no drivers speeding in the village.

The more volunteers we have in the group, the more sessions we can support. If you have an hour or two a month you can offer to support the Speedwatch team please sign up by emailing alisonjones1005@gmail.com or the parish clerk and police training can be arranged so that you can help to keep the speed of people passing through in the village down.

Alison Jones May 2026