



No need to speed... SID is watching you

By David Southgate

THE Bucklebury Parish Road Safety volunteers have passed a milestone with our speed indicator device (SID) having now recorded more than 1.6million vehicles since 2023. While the speeding issue has not gone away, the past six months of data has shown a reduction in the number of vehicles exceeding 40 mph. The data has been entered into a huge database to allow more targeted activities regarding excessive speeds.

This information is shared with the police and West Berkshire Council and will be available to assist any future traffic studies associated with the NE Thatcham Development. The reports are posted on the Bucklebury Parish council (BPC) website. Community Speed Watch (CSW) activity has been fundamental in driver education with more than 900 motorists receiving letters from the police for exceeding the reporting threshold since we began in 2025. Fords and VWs are the most frequently

recorded vehicles, with cars and vans accounting for 98 percent of the total. Some specific speed related petitions to WBC are being created to address the school zone and Bucklebury village based upon our SID data. WBC have released their guidance on parish-owned SIDs and vehicle-activated signs so we are now looking at the installation of additional units and an automated CSW to reduce the volunteers needed to two per session.

Progress to date has been down to a small group of volunteers who deploy SID and CSW. Their contribution is having a real impact and BPC thank them for their efforts. But we need more volunteers to sustain the progress that has been made. It is an issue that impacts all who live and work in the parish and is primarily down to the community to manage. The commitment is small and flexible and training will be given. If you want to make our roads safer please contact the Parish Clerk, or Councillors Southgate or Graham Pask.