

# Wingrave with Rowsham Traffic Group Update

The group met in early September to discuss progress and plans for the future. The areas of work fall broadly into two categories: those which seek to improve the aesthetic of the village, and those which aim to use direct measures (e.g. speed indication devices) to reduce the impact of traffic on the Parish. Listed below are the next steps anticipated in each of these areas.

## 1. Improving the aesthetic of the Parish

Following the successful work at the Green to create a special place, there is a feeling amongst the traffic group that aims in this area have largely been achieved. Individuals are happy to provide further help as parishioners (e.g. rotavating, digging), but the village handyman/MWAgri should now be responsible for maintenance. Specific items remaining to be completed on the Green are:

- Remaining tree stumps require grinding – to be organised by Parish Clerk?
- Planting or surfacing near the wall. If planting is preferable, advice required for low-maintenance, wildlife-friendly planting beside wall
  - Possibly MWAgri can offer guidance? Other possible sources of advice could be Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Natural Environment Partnership (<http://bucksmknep.co.uk/bucks-buzzing/>) and Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust (<http://www.bbowl.org.uk>)
  - Suggested plants so far are perennial wallflowers (low-maintenance, tolerant of poor soils) and lungwort (low-maintenance groundcover for shady spots)
  - Village sign

Other areas in the village could be improved with the addition of flowers, and the entrances to the Parish could be enhanced with “Welcome to Wingrave/Rowsham” signs.

Traffic group members have offered assistance installing the Silent Soldier, and potentially raising money for a second or third for the entrances to Wingrave and Rowsham. Cllr Lawrence has observed the positive effect on passing traffic of the Silent Soldiers at each end of Stoke Hammond, see her photograph to right.



## 2. Direct steps to reduce the impact of traffic on the village

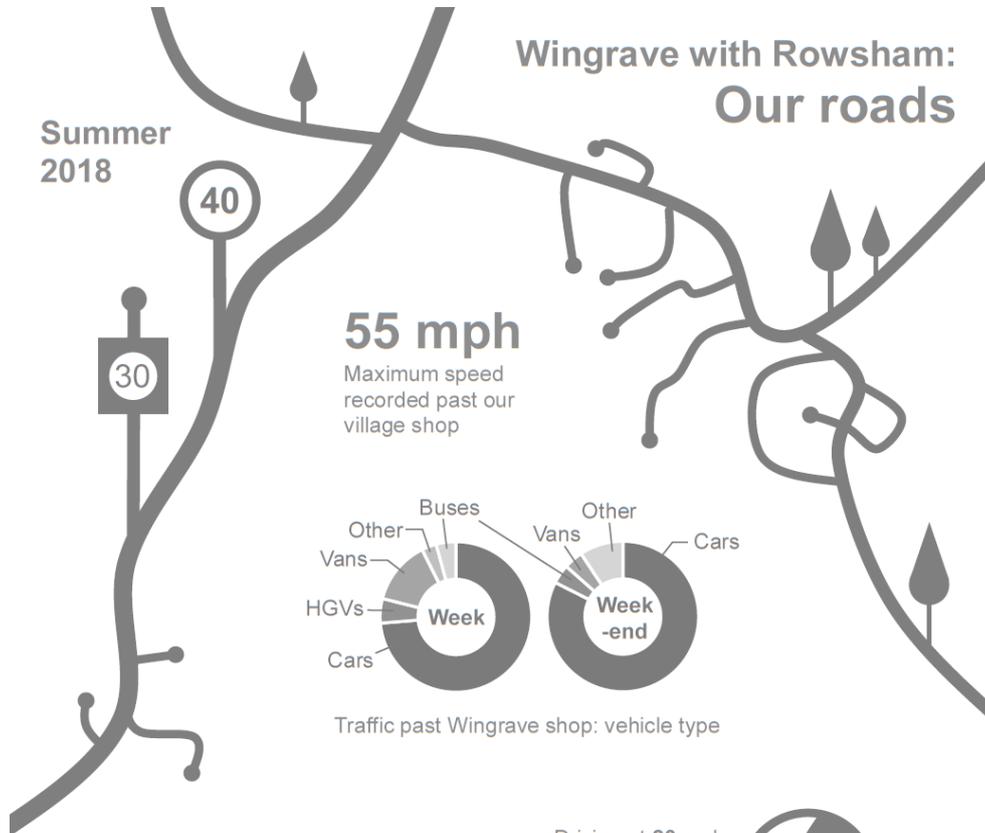
Further discussion is required to decide where to focus our efforts, but ideas so far include:

- Purchase of SID. We understand that money is available for the purchase of a SID but dimensions of ground screw/post required
- Survey of parishioners to gauge current perceptions of traffic-related issues, and to assess possible support for specific actions of the group
- Buying a car and using the roof rack to display traffic calming measures
- Re-visiting the 20 mph speed limit. Since the petition and feasibility study, 20 mph limits have become much more commonplace across the country and signage regulations have changed (see photograph to right, taken in Aberdeen). 25% of the UK population now live in areas where the local authority has a policy of setting 20 mph as the default for their streets. The World Health Organisation (WHO) states "A safe speed on roads with possible conflicts between cars and pedestrians, cyclists or other vulnerable road users is 20mph". One idea is to join the "Twenty's plenty" national campaign (<http://www.20splenty.org/>), and form a local branch: "Twenty's Plenty for Wingrave". With parishioners' support, an event could be set up whereby locals (which constitute a significant fraction of the traffic in the village) would be encouraged to drive at 20 mph – slowing down not only themselves, but those behind them. The MVAS would be used to record speeds before, during and after the event, with results communicated shortly after in the Communique. If successful could lead to pursuing official 20mph limit.
- Electric vehicle chargepoint (aimed at reducing air pollution and noise) – Cost of a two-output chargepoint would be in the region of £5k – 9k, OLEV grants are available to cover 75% of the costs



### Communications – creating a visually striking way of sharing our work with the community

As always, any projects or actions of the group will be communicated to parishioners with a view to raising awareness and increasing participation. One of the ways we plan to do this is by using an infographic as a means of presenting information, possibly as a regular feature in Communique. See below an example of the infographic (statistics given are not based on real data, they are just shown as illustration). We also will consider the possibility of a community centre event to present our collected traffic data, share the work we are doing, and receive input from parishioners.



**8 am to 9 am**  
Peak traffic through our villages

Driving at 20 mph

**halves**

perceived noise compared to 30 mph



Proportion of residents who would like more traffic calming measures

