

Correspondence for WPC 26th March 2024

From Elizabeth Vice 14/3/2024

Thank you for passing on my concerns to Councillor Barry Durkin.

However, could it please also be noted that I am not just concerned regarding the speed limit within the confines of Woolhope village itself, but also on the approach roads into Woolhope village. For instance fellow farm workers and I have for over 20 years tended to livestock and land management tasks either side of the approach road from the Ross/Fownhope direction. This land, known as The park, the Ail meadow and Pear Tree, form part of the old Wessington Estate and is located both sides of the Woolhope Road, when approaching Woolhope village.

I am also very concerned for the numerous members of the public who walk, ride, cycle etc along this long, flat, comparatively straight stretch of road every day, at all hours of the day and night.

There is support from neighbouring land owners for a maximum 30 mile speed limit, with a suggested minimum starting point from soon after the junction of Buckenhill Lane with the Woolhope Road, which is approximately one mile from Woolhope Village. Please also note that there is much support for a 20 miles per hour speed limit for actual Woolhope Village itself. There are several "20 is plenty" or similar signs erected by village residents in an attempt to slow down traffic passing through the village.

The Ail Meadow is now a new nature reserve owned by Herefordshire Wildlife Trust and situated opposite The Park on the Woolhope approach road. The Trust recently constructed a car park and livestock handling area opposite The Park corral, which is situated on the other side of this very busy and fast stretch of road. Vehicles large and small often pass by us travelling over 60 miles per hour. Passing residents or visitors to Woolhope (often groups of walkers of all ages) often stop on the side of the road to admire the views and chat to us about the Longhorn Cattle and the local wildlife. But it is potentially extremely dangerous. With the often very fast traffic passing close by us, it is hard to relax. When we are there we try to warn people about the road, but it is likely to be only a matter of time before serious injury occurs to people, livestock, dogs or horses.

Please let us take measures as soon as possible to limit the speed of vehicles in and around the village of Woolhope to a maximum of 30 miles per hour, as is usually the norm in similar situations elsewhere.

Kind regards,

Elizabeth Vice