



## News from Watlington Community Office

1 Old School Place, Gorwell, Watlington OX49 5QH  
Telephone: 01491613867  
e-mail: [wpc@watlington-oxon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:wpc@watlington-oxon-pc.gov.uk)  
website: [www.watlington-oxon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.watlington-oxon-pc.gov.uk)

May 2010

### Planning Award 2010

This Award was presented at the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Pavilion on the 15<sup>th</sup> April by David Tindale, Chairman of the Planning Committee.

**The Winner** – Mr and Mrs Brock , 3 Church Meadows (pictured)

### Highly Commended:

Kate Hewetson-Smith – 9 Spring Lane  
Mr and Mrs Woodeson -18 Cuxham Road.

### ONE ACRE FIELD - AVAILABLE TO LET

The Parish Council have the benefit of a field just this side of Cuxham, which is approximately one acre fronting the Cuxham Road and adjacent to and on the left of 1 Chestnut Farm Cottage.

We would ask all interested parties to register or re-register their interest.

The site has gated access from Cuxham Road. The last occupier kept a horse on it and erected a timber construction for shelter. Please note that the field will need clearing as it has not been in use for approximately 2 years. Anyone who would like to rent the field should apply to:

The Clerk, Kristina Tynan, at the Parish Offices, 1 Old School Place, Gorwell, Watlington, OX49 5QH. Telephone 01491 613867

Email: [wpc@watlington-oxon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:wpc@watlington-oxon-pc.gov.uk)

We would like your submission on one side of A4, detailing your proposed use of the field and an indication of the rent you would be prepared to pay. The length of term is to be agreed between the parties.

Interest to be expressed before Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2010, after this date all offers will be assessed.

### Watlington in Bloom

It was agreed at the meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> April that we enter this competition for this year which will be judged in July. There is a meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm in the Community Office, 1 Old School Place, if you are interested please come along. We are hoping to complete a portfolio for the judges in which we would like to include photographs of private gardens. If you would like your garden to be included in our portfolio please send us your photographs.

### Speeding Report by David Tindale and Ian Hill

The Watlington Times has reported much concern and comment about the speed of traffic on the Britwell Road, and on the dangers to pedestrians near the Goggs. In the past couple of months both Thames Valley Police and the County Council have responded to this by carrying out speed monitoring exercises on this road and other routes out of town. We, the Parish Council, have recently received records of these exercises and discussed them at the April meeting of the Strategy Committee.

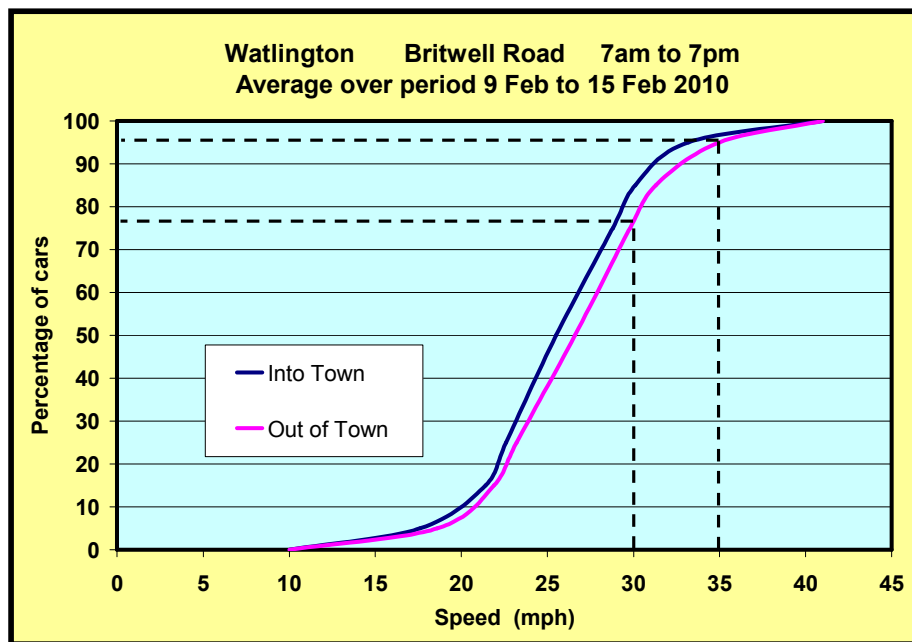
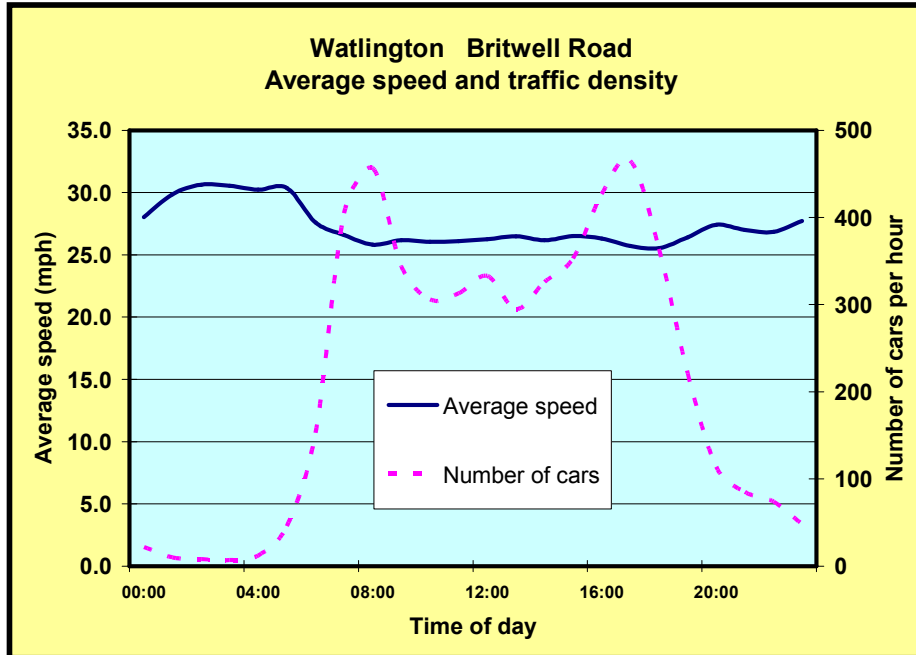
The OCC monitoring used a device that recorded traffic numbers and speeds for 24 hours a day over a one week period. The results of this are shown in the two diagrams below. The first shows the average speed and number of vehicles travelling in either direction for each hour of the day, averaged over the full week. This average was below 30 mph for all the daylight hours and only rose above the speed limit in the early hours of the morning when the traffic density was at its lowest. The overall average for the week was just over 26 mph. This generally low speed has been confirmed by the various police monitoring exercises.

The distribution of speed (second diagram) shows that 95% of traffic was travelling at or below the police limit for prosecution (35 mph) and that no vehicles were exceeding 45 mph. On this basis it looks as though the speed cushions are serving their purpose. Although it can be argued that the presence of uniformed police will itself reduce average speeds, this will not be the case with the technology used for the OCC monitoring which consists of a small box mounted alongside the road and is completely unnoticeable to drivers. We believe that impression of speed of the passing traffic results from how close the traffic is to pedestrians and the lack of space for getting further from the traffic because of the narrowness of the pavements.

It seems clear to us that we will not make much progress with pushing for further speed control measures with the statistics presented above, and that we need to look at alternative approaches. We would be interested to hear

from regular users of the pedestrian paths around that area what their basic fears are for that part of town, and how they feel it compares with other footpaths in town. If you wish to comment please contact the Parish Office directly.

That is not the only area of town for which concerns about speed have been expressed. At the same time as the traffic on Britwell Road was monitored, OCC set up another monitor in Christmas Common near the Fox and Hounds. This showed rather more of an issue with speed. The average speed was 30 mph or higher for most of the day, with top speeds in excess of 50 mph, and about 25% of vehicles exceeding 35 miles per hour. This note has provided just a summary of the information provided to us by OCC as a result of their monitoring. The full set of outputs is available for inspection by prior arrangement in the Parish Office.



**PCSO Diane Greenwood C9840 and PC Ian Kent 4555**

If you wish to contact PCSO Diane Greenwood on any issue telephone 0845 8505505 - to leave a message or report an incident or email at: [diane.greenwood@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:diane.greenwood@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)  
Alternatively you can always leave a message via the Parish Office.

**Dates of forthcoming regular meetings:**

Operations Committee: Wed 19<sup>th</sup> May at 10am

Strategy – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May

Planning Committee – Tues 1<sup>st</sup> June

Full Council - Tues 8<sup>th</sup> June

Finance – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June

All meetings start at 8pm and are held in the Community Office unless otherwise stated. We welcome residents attending any of these meetings as observers. If people wish to speak on a particular agenda item it is necessary to contact the Parish Clerk during office hours by noon the day before the meeting. Minutes of all Parish Council meetings are available to members of the public and can be viewed on our website or in the Parish Office during opening hours.

**The Parish Office is normally open:**

9.30am-12.30pm Mon, Tues, Weds, Fri and 9.30am -1pm on Thurs when the Citizens Advice Bureau is also open.

*Collated by Kristina Tynan, Clerk and Angie Paterson – Vice -Chairman*