Dalham Traffic Management

Parish Council discussion

8 July 2026

Purpose

- Following the Suffolk Parishes Road Safety Group meeting (29 April), to align on supporting the proposal to achieve *affordable* 20mph speed limits for Dalham. The idea is to make a joint application to spread the legal and administration costs amongst the 5 parishes represented (*see following slide for Jeremy Muller's summary of key aspects from the meeting*)
- To re-affirm further measures to reduce instances of motorists speeding and driving dangerously through Dalham village

Purpose

We briefly ran through the procedural issues which we will all need to deal with. These are summarised here

- Parish Councils will need to agree to move forward as a coordinated collaborative syndicate (cost sharing/savings)
- Parish Councils will need to define the roads/zones where new 20mph limits are to be applied for
- Parish Councils will need to agree to adhere to a timetable framework, so as not to delay the process for the majority of the group
- Our respective communities are to be surveyed, ensuring there is a clear majority for a reduction in speed limits.*
- We need the support of our respective County Councillor
- Initial joint approach to Suffolk
- Speed Surveys to be commissioned from Suffolk Highways. There is a deal to be done with Highways to obtain a collective rate
- Review results of surveys to determine route to be taken to obtain permission (ie mean speeds <28mph, between 28 and 32 and >32) to define extent of other traffic calming measures which may be necessary. It may be that at this point, the process becomes difficult or impossible for certain parishes to comply with the group timetable. Needs consideration.



** We have a sample of the Lidgate and Moulton surveys. We can use Survey Monkey and/or a manual system*

Context – Dalham Village profile

- Narrow roads with multiple pinch points
- No pavements
- No streetlights
- Popular with walkers and dog walkers from outside the village
- Popular pub on narrow & awkward road intersection (also busy Thur-Sun with vehicles parked on The Street)
- Above average older profile (est 24% of residents are 75 yrs or older. Rural Suffolk villages estimate is 12%*)

** ONS Census 2021*

Note - the new Suffolk County Council 20mph Policy states: ***"Primary consideration will be given to the function of the location. Where the focus is on 'place' and significant numbers of more vulnerable road users are likely to be present, support is likely to be forthcoming."***

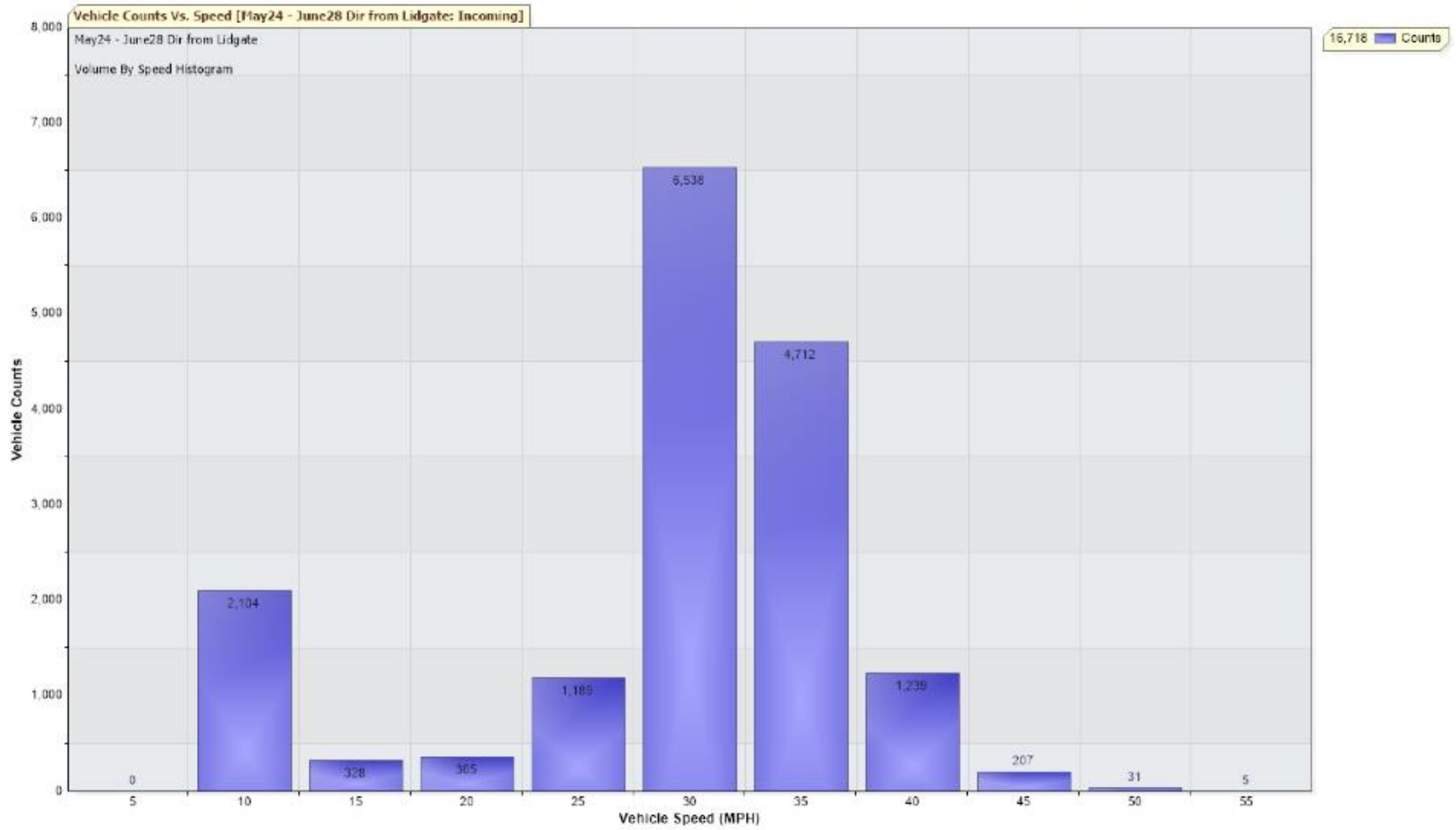
Recent speed data: VAS readings 24 May – 28 June

- Traffic entering Dalham from Lidgate
- VAS location: approx 400m after the first 30mph sign entering Dalham
- Total vehicles recorded: 16,718
- 85th percentile speed = 33.9mph (85% of vehicles are at or below 33.9mph; 15% are faster)
- 50th percentile speed = 28.3mph (half of all vehicles travelling faster than 28.3mph)
- Average speed: 26.5mph

Recent speed data

76% of vehicles: at the maximum limit (30mph) or faster

37% of vehicles: at 35mph or faster



Speeders: when traffic flows are busiest but also, when walkers, runners and dog walkers are out

- Max speed recorded = 55 mph
- Highest incidences of speeding weekdays : in the morning (5 – 8am) and afternoon (3 – 5pm)

And weekends : in the morning (8 – 11am) and afternoon (1 – 5pm)

What we can do now…

- Expand our SpeedWatch efforts (although police do not prosecute) ✅
- Relocate our existing camera regularly ✅
- Re-pursue a 20mph limit. New SCC 20mph policy states:

Observed mean traffic speeds	Acceptability of 20 mph speed limit	Expected measures
Below 28 mph	Likely to be acceptable.	Sign only speed limit. Gateway signing for conspicuous entrance and compliance would be recommended
28–32 mph	Unlikely to be acceptable with signing alone.	Gateway signing, traffic calming throughout the area.

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Next steps

- Immediate-term. Agree and action the following:
  - Confirm objective of 20mph limit in village
  - Conduct village speed survey
  - Define scope of measures we wish to pursue
- Short-to-Medium-term. Develop closer ties with Suffolk Parishes Road Safety Group (possibly also 20's Plenty group)

APPENDIX

Speeders: weekly summary

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Count over limit	859	925	945	877	901	817	870
% over limit	42.2	34.1	36.5	38.9	43.4	29.2	38.7
Avg speeder	34.1mph	33.8	33.9	33.8	34	33.9	33.9
Avg speed	28.6mph	25	25.6	28.4	29.5	22.4	27.8



What we <u>can</u> consider*…

Countdown signs (similar to Ashley)





Improved electronic signs
This one installed in Cavendish

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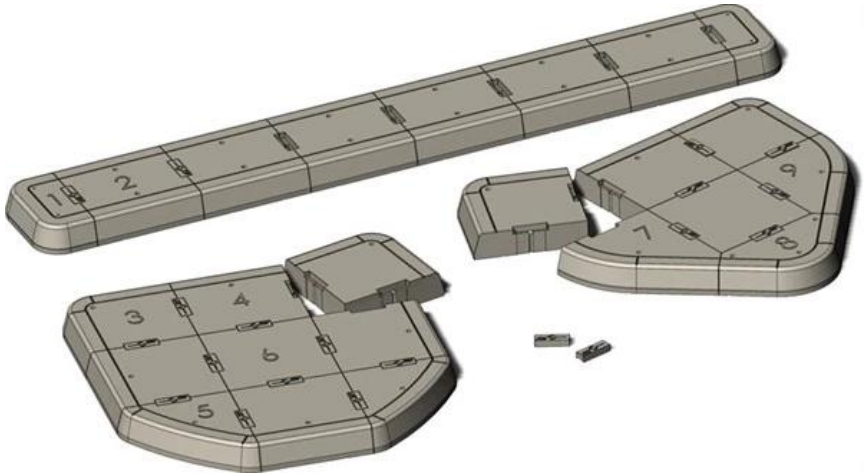
**Feasibility and costs TBC*

What we <u>can</u> consider*…

Chicanes



Westley



Modular rubberised island



Similar to Cheveley

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**Feasibility and costs TBC*

What we <u>can</u> consider*…

Improved/ renewed existing signs



Install speed camera signs



Replace existing worn-out signs at entrances to village

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**Feasibility and costs TBC*

What we <u>can</u> consider*…

Install speed bumps



*Feasibility and costs TBC

What we <u>can</u> consider*…

Install extra road markings / repaint existing





Install extra road markings

Install painted ‘road-narrowing’ effect



*Feasibility and costs TBC