

From: >

Sent: 21 August 2025 10:06

To: Parish Clerk Williton Parish Council <clerk@willitonpc.org.uk>

Subject: Re: Speeding and dog mess

Thanks Michelle for your prompt response which is much appreciated.

I am sorry to hear that the parish was not allowed to protect the recreational field from dogs being exercised off lead, and I say this as an owner of 3 dogs. It is sad that not all dog owners are responsible. I used to do pilates in the pavilion and the dogs would be right outside the doors barking and sometimes running into the hall. Both our children are sporty and have been engaged in sports on various village fields in the area so I feel strongly about them having safe space to exercise. But also for the families who may wish to use this lovely area for picnics or for letting little children run around without fear of being covered in poo or approached by unruly dogs. Perhaps the parish could have another go at requesting the protection order in the interest of public health and safety, especially as this is used as a football field?

Regarding the speeding - sadly, I am unable to help with your speed watch at present. But, as I do walk almost every day along the main road I can confirm that the majority of drivers heading in the Taunton direction are travelling at speeds of well over 30mph. If I sit there with a speed gun, I am sure I am going to see cars slowing down as they approach me which does not give a fair representation of what is happening. I regularly get middle fingers or angry faces (and even accelerating!) if I gesture for vehicles to slow down. I would happily have someone from the PC join me on a dog walk around the village to chat about my experiences.

Given the recent accident along this stretch of road and the genuine worry about my son and other teenagers crossing the road to catch the bus in the mornings, I would think that it would be very prudent for the two parishes to collaborate at the earliest opportunity to improve the signage through the whole village and review other ways of slowing the traffic down. One thought is that the 50mph sign could be moved down past the second Sampford Brett junction.

I have offered to help Sampford Brett with any publicity/campaigns if money needs to be raised or petitions launched. I am sure the local schools would also get involved, which would help to educate the next generation of drivers.

Best wishes

From: Parish Clerk Williton Parish Council <clerk@willitonpc.org.uk>

Date: Thursday, 21 August 2025 at 09:26

To:

Subject: RE: Speeding and dog mess

Good Morning

Thank you for your email.

I'm sorry to hear about the issues you've experienced with speeding along Tower Hill. The Speed Indicator Device (SID) installed by Williton Parish Council has had a positive impact, but to extend

our efforts through Community Speed Watch, we rely on the support of local volunteers. Unfortunately, we've recently lost some of our team members, which has limited our ability to run sessions. If this is something you would be interested in getting involved with, we would be very grateful—please do let me know.

Regarding the increase in dog fouling, we share your concerns. Despite placing multiple signs requesting that owners clean up after their dogs, the problem persists. The Parish Council previously requested a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) from Somerset Council to require dogs to be kept on leads in the area, but unfortunately, the request was declined, leaving us with limited enforcement options.

I will ensure both of these matters are included on the agenda for the next relevant council meetings in September, and I will keep you informed of any updates or comments from the Council. These issues will also be included in the November parish newsletter.

Thank you once again for taking the time to share your concerns with us.

Kind regards

Michelle

Michelle Francis
Clerk, Williton Parish Council
Clerk, WWMRG Charity
2 Killick Way
Williton
Taunton
Somerset
TA4 4PY

01984 633979

From:

Sent: 19 August 2025 10:12

To: Parish Clerk Williton Parish Council <clerk@willitonpc.org.uk>

Subject: Speeding and dog mess

Dear Parish Clerk

I have written to Sampford Brett Parish council on a number of occasions regarding the speeding along Tower Hill, which has improved slightly for traffic heading towards Williton since the electronic speed sign was installed, but sadly not in the other direction.

On Sunday morning (17th August) at around 9am most vehicles that passed us were travelling at way above 30mph. One truck heading from Williton towards Taunton passed us along Tower Hill at a speed of around 60mph. On gesturing for him to slow down, we were completely ignored.

I would be very grateful if WPC would liaise with SBPC to discuss measures that could be taken to slow traffic down through the village. There was recently an accident at the end of our lane and it is only a matter of time before another one occurs. Walking with our dogs and children and crossing the roads with speeding traffic is extremely stressful. At the very least the signage through Tower Hill and Williton needs to be improved so that ignorance

can't be used as an excuse. The existing 30mph signs are far too small, and are often obscured by bushes so are not visible until the last minute.

On another matter - we have noticed a significant increase in dog mess in and around Williton. I find it such a shame that some dog owners are ruining the area for others. We have recently picked up other people's dog poo from the recreational field, and I cannot understand why people are even allowed to exercise their dogs off lead on this area which is often used for sports. There are plenty of open spaces where dogs can run off the lead in this area. I do hope that the parish can discuss this at their next meeting and help make the environment safer and more pleasant for everyone who lives here.

Many thanks