

Appleshaw & Redenham PC

Road Safety Group

Status Report and update - summer 2025

Introduction

Updates and discussions from The Road Safety Group initiatives are communicated at bi-monthly Parish Council Meetings for the past 2-3 years. This brief update aims to inform villagers who may not be aware of current progress. The implications of the huge scale of new housing nearby on road safety in the villages is also incorporated into this discussion.

'Speed Indication Devices' (SIDs)

Two devices that flash actual speeds to drivers have been approved by the PC and ordered by the Parish Clerk and will shortly be sited at strategic points in the villages

to influence driver behaviour

to provide data of actual speeds in the villages

Analysis of the data will require a volunteer to download to a PC and summarise.

20 MPH speed limit

The application for a 20MPH speed limit in the current 30MPH areas will require data from the SIDs. Other criteria for a successful application seem to be in place.

Overwhelming consensus to address the issue was received in the 2024 consultation response.

Provision of finance for the installation of 20MPH signage by HCC approved installers will need to be agreed. There may be a possibility that developers of new housing in the area might be invited to offer funds. Local sources of funds might need to be approached, including local employers, PC, and fund-raising initiatives.

The application is supported by our HCC representative, Cllr. Chris Donnelly.

Pedestrian Safety between Appleshaw and the A432 'Top Road'

The safety of pedestrians walking to the 'top road' to link with public transport remains a key 'pinch point' and high-risk area. Several 'near misses' were reported in the consultation responses.

Recent installation of two new warning signs, at Greensey and at the 'top road junction' by HCC are welcomed.

The provision of a footpath remains a key objective.

Pedestrian refuge areas on bends with high banks might also be considered.

Junction improvements at the A342 'Top Road'

Traffic from the village joining the A342 face high speed (60MPH +/-) drivers approaching from the west, Ludgershall direction, with limited visibility of their approach. The consultation responses again provided data with most respondents being concerned and many witnessing 'near misses'.

Traffic turning right at the junction also face high speed traffic and an awkward situation to join the central reservation.

Similarly, the junction of Privet Lane with the A342 is also worthy of consideration, especially in the light of proposed housing developments nearby.

Speeding and traffic density approaching Pilgrims site and Appleshaw School

At start and finish times at the school and at Pilgrims, driving behaviour and congestion are an issue.

The design of an appropriate school drop-off process and location would be welcomed.

Local employer Pilgrims constantly remind staff of the need for care and speed awareness in the village.

SIDs will provide better data about the scale of the issue.

Impact of new housing schemes in the area on road safety

At the PC meeting in July, Councillor Phil Lashbrook provided updates of outline plans for several thousand homes to be built between Weyhill and Ludgershall in the coming years.

Plans for new housing in Appleshaw amount to a relatively small number, 35 units, behind the current row of houses at Eastville, Ragged Appleshaw.

The huge scale of new housing developments nearby will, however, impact on Appleshaw and Redenham traffic and safety.

The A342 traffic density will increase significantly. A major redesign of the junction to Appleshaw seems even more essential.

In the event of traffic incidents on the A342, traffic from Ludgershall or Andover directions are likely to divert through Redenham and Appleshaw to avoid incidents. This phenomenon already happens when incidents occur; with 4000+ new houses in the area, it is highly likely to happen far more frequently. Suggestions from HCC are welcome.

Influencing behaviours

Drivers and pedestrians, as well as cyclists and horse-riders, are reminded of the risks when travelling around the villages with limited pavements and recorded incidents of speeding.

Pedestrian are encouraged to wear high visibility clothing, especially in areas with no pavements and at night.

Signage maintenance in the villages

The poor state of signage in the villages and in some cases obscurity through untended vegetation growth is

Future forum for Road Safety in Appleshaw & Redenham

The work of The Road Safety committee and the PC continues to make positive steps to improve safety on our roads.

A significant new challenge has arrived in the form of new proposed housing schemes.

The PC might want to consider how the implications of the huge scale of new housing in the area might be addressed and decide upon the best forums to question, challenge and accommodate change at the next PC meeting.

Andrew Smith

Chair

Road Safety Committee

Reporting to Appleshaw & Redenham PC