

Parish Councils Speeding Group – Draft for consideration by Gainford Parish Council

Gainford

A total of 18 responses were received to the questionnaire posted in the Focus Magazine, all answers can be seen at appendix i.

The main problems highlighted were speeding traffic coming into the village from the East and West on the A67 and from the North on the Ingleton Road

The answers clearly show that speeding affects the quality of life of Gainford residents, the respondents tended to be older and many have mobility issues. This is likely to become more of an issue as the village has an aging population. There are also significant sized housing developments currently being put in to the East and West of the village.

There were also a number of responses from residents in adjoining villages relevant to Gainford, with problems experienced accessing the GP practice due to speeding and poor visibility of traffic coming into the village due to the village gates on the pavement blocking the view.

A Speed report from September 2025 at appendix ii was carried out just west of the entrance to the GP practice, shows that 45% of traffic is travelling in excess of the 30 MPH speed limit. It should be noted that this is the entrance to the village that benefits from a 40mph buffer zone approaching the 30mph area.

The results of the speed report indicate that the levels has not met the polices escalation levels where they would consider dedicated speed enforcement.

The Department for Transport, Guidance Setting Local Speed Limits indicates that quality of life of local residents should be taken into account when setting speed limits, the survey results indicate that the quality of life particularly of older people or people with mobility issues shows an adverse effect. Also the quality of life of residents immediately adjacent to the national limit is affected to a greater extent.

Residents have indicated that they would like traffic calming measures, such as roundabouts at the entrances to the new developments at the east and west of the village, pelican crossings where the school crossings and a widening of the pavement where it narrows on the north side of the A67 in front of the houses adjacent to the chip shop.

Residents would like a greater police presence to enforce speed limits.

Proposed changes to the East speed limits and street furniture

1. The 30mph limit to the East gateway to the village to be moved to include the housing development at the former St Peters site, effectively taking it back to the 40mph limit.
2. The 40mph limit to be taken 100M east from the existing site to provide an effective buffer reducing speeds before traffic reaches St Peters.
3. The Brown Village Gates to be moved to the East of the St Peters Development and painted white, this will make the entrance to the village more obvious and have the added bonus that the view for cars exiting the GP surgery would no longer be blocked.

Proposed Changes to the North Road Speed Limits

1. The 30mph limit to be extended to include the bungalows on the east side of the road.
2. A 40mph buffer to be introduced to the north of the “new” 30mph limit.
3. The Parish Council could consider the provision of parking spaces in Balmer Hill in order that double yellow lines be put opposite the Balmer Hill junction, preventing vehicles having to turn south into oncoming traffic on the blind hill summit.

Proposed Changes to the West Entrance to the village

1. 30mph limit and village gates to be moved beyond the blind bend, where “slow” is currently painted on the road.
2. A 100 meter 40mph buffer zone to be introduced west of the 30mph signs.
3. Consideration should also be given to providing a pavement on the north side of the A67. The South side opposite the new housing development has no pavement and is adjacent to a 8ft high stone wall.

Enforcement of Speed Limits/Detering Speeding

1. Police mobile unit to carry out enforcement/monitoring/deterrent.
2. A neighbourhood speed watch to be set up (5 residents have volunteered)

Appendix i, Survey Answers Gainford

Village	Roads Junctions	Quality of life affected	Issues	Access	Suggestion
Gainford	A67	Yes	Crossing Road on Zimmer		20 MPH
Gainford	A67	Yes			20 MPH

Gainford	A67 entrance to village	Yes	Crossing Road am disabled	GP, Village Hall	
Gainford	A67 All entrances to village, junction by cross keys and corner shop	Yes	Crossing road and pulling out of junctions		Reduce traffic speed, stop parking on pavements
Gainford	A67 through village	Yes	Visually Impaired	Speeding makes access more difficult	Zebra Crossing
Gainford	North Terrace, Main Road (A67)	Yes	Visibility, obstruction of views		Police Speed Cameras Visits
Gainford	Entrance to village all sides	Yes	Tricky crossing road and pulling out	Tricky crossing road and pulling out	Traffic calming, stop parking on pavement
Gainford	A67 at Lord Nelson and GP practice	Yes	Crossing Road to use bus and GP		Rumble Strips, Red Marks on Road
Gainford	Cross Roads		Speeding at crossroads, parking within the village	GP, shop and school	Anything to reduce speed
Gainford	Cross Keys Crossroads, North Terrace and past Balmer Hill	Yes	Concern for family crossing road, crossing road by car feels unsafe	GP and School	Traffic management at crossroads, parking management along roads, speed enforcement, include children to improve awareness and prevention
Gainford	All 3 entrances/exits to the village	Yes	Risky crossing the road, noise especially at night (trucks)	Had to use car to take elderly parents to the GP despite only living across the road	Interest from police but not sat there in high viz, use of proper speed enforcement cameras. Change buffer zones to slow traffic further, enforcement on on bad parking, pavement blocking

Gainford	1. A) All road junctions from the village green to the A67 are affected by speeding though the village	yes	Speeding affects my quality of life - crossing the main road both by car and on foot is difficult due to sight lines being obstructed and the speed of many vehicles. I avoid going to the corner shop and to the post box. School Lane is also affected by traffic crossing the Green at speed and round the corner into and down School Lane regardless of the danger to school children, pedestrians with dogs and small children.	see above	Sight lines at all junctions from the Green and North terrace to the main road are very restricted by parked vehicles. Many years ago the Durham County Council compulsorily purchased part of the gardens of many properties to the south of the main road including all of High Row and widened the footpaths to improve the sight lines and reduce the acknowledged danger. This has been negated by the current parking. It should be made illegal and enforcement proceeding taken.
Gainford	B) school lane is also affected. Traffic comes across the Green and round the corner into school lane at excessive speeds and into school lane to the river and playing field	Yes	Speeding cars and not being able to see them coming because of parked cars	GP, shop and pub. I walk the dog down to the green, someone is going to get hurt by a speeding car where there is no foot path and high stone walls.	One way system on Tees view, roundabouts at St Peters, the new Raby Development and Balmer Hill, 40mph limits leading up to the village, 30mph limits extended out beyond new developments, double yellow lines and parking restrictions around the Cross Keys cross road. Regular speed checks

Gainford	A67 all entrances to the village, Tees View leading to Village Green, Cross Keys Village Shop crossroads,	Yes	Speeding cars coming into the Green down Tees View, parked cars and high stone walls leave no where to escape to. Parked Cars on the pavement force pedestrians into the road and block the view of drivers pulling onto the A67, Fast cars especially at night and the weekend. Worst speeding from West to East due to less obstruction	Difficult to cross A67, do not want to wait at island with 2 dogs. Worry about children seen dashing across A67 in front of speeding cars. Children accessing play areas, narrow pavements on the way to the shop mean have to cross the A67 to use the other side, pavements blocked by parked cars. Speeding cars and accidents in front of GP practice. Have to take relatives to GP by car even though they could walk but are slow.	Traffic calming roundabouts at St Peters, Gainford Hall and Balmer Hill, 40 mph buffer zones at all village gateways. Keep village roads free from gravel and wet leaves to reduce braking times. Enforce speed limits, prosecute dangerous drivers.
Gainford	A67, Tees View going onto the village Green, Crossroads at village shop, all entrances and exits to village, traffic travelling west to east on A67 increases speed at junction with Eden Lane causing accidents rearending cars turning into GP surgery	Yes	It is difficult to cross the A67 to access the Teesdale way and the village green. Going to the village shop you have to cross the road due to the narrow pavements often have to walk in the road due to cars parked on the pavement. Poor visibility turning onto the A67 at the Cross Keys Junction due to parked cars on pavement obstruct view.	Difficulty accessing GP, shop, Pub, village hall, and chippy due to speeding drivers.	Widen pavement and stop people parking on pavements. More speed cameras

Gainford	Speeding affects the whole village, the A67 cuts the village in 2, and can be very difficult to cross, cars come flying into the village from both directions on the A67 and down north road from Ingleton	Yes	Speeding and parked cars blocking view of junctions, really bad at Cross Keys	Difficulty walking along A67 to Village Hall, often have to walk around cars parked on the pavement forcing me to walk in the road. The cars are fast, I will drive sometimes because I worry I will be hit by a car.	Stop cars parking on pavement, double yellow lines, widen the pavement by the chip shop. Police need to have speed traps in the village.
Gainford	A67 Main Road, Eden Lane Junction	Yes	Crossing Road and exiting Eden Lane when I am driving	I drive to the GP so I don't end up standing in the middle of the road at the traffic island	We need speed traps like they have in Barnard Castle
Gainford	A67/Main Road	yes	I worry when I see children trying to cross the road	Children need to cross the road to get to school, the recreation field and the playground. Older children need to get the school bus in the morning	We used to have 2 lollipop crossings. Where are children going to cross from the new houses? The pavements are very narrow