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Wednesday 18th June 2014

The Rt. Hon. Andrew Lansley, M.P.,
153, St Neots Road,
Hardwick,
Cambridge
CB23 7QJ

Dear Andrew

Re: The Excessive Speed of Vehicles Entering and leaving Newton.

In my 52 years as a voter, I have never previously written or approached my Member of Parliament to lobby for action to be taken or written to newspapers to raise awareness on a matter of concern. For me this is an important exception.

Many people in Newton have been extremely concerned about the excessive speed of vehicles in the village and for my wife, Sarah, and I it came to a head two weeks ago when our dog, Bertie, was killed by a car entering the village at between 60 and 70 mph. It could have easily been one of our grandchildren who live in Newton and Triplow and visit us daily!

Following the incident I circulated a notice to the residents of Newton asking for their support in lobbying for effective measures to be put in place. Sarah and I have been amazed by the level of response and support. On two roads most affected (Harston Road and Cambridge/Fowlmere Road) 86% of householders replied saying that that something must be done to stop the flagrant disregarding of the speed limit before a more serious accident occurs.

I have also written to our local councillors on the SCDC, the Cambridge Police and of course Newton Parish Council asking for their support and advice as what measure would be suitable. I am writing to you today to ask for your support in pressurising the appropriate authorities to take action. I know that one of the first objections will be that there is nothing in the budget but perhaps the solution is staring us in the face.

What about a temporary mobile speed camera in the village recording, prosecuting and fining vehicles exceeding the speed limit! The resulting money collected could go towards paying for the traffic calming measures in the village thus making it all self-funding. I should imagine that fines going to the village or area of the law infringement are not allowed under current legislation but I am sure that it would be popular and attract votes to the Party who introduced the legislation. Just a thought for 2015!

I enclose a copy of the circular sent to the village together with details of who responded as well as a copy of my letter/e-mail to our local councillors and trust that we may count on your support and advice.

Yours sincerely

P.S. Only today, as a reminder of the problem, at about 11.00AM, as I was walking up the road past the village hall, an Aston-Martin, throttle hard to the floor, passed me rapidly accelerating up the hill so that it passed the 30MPH sign outside my house at about 70 mph!

Clive Bradbury