

## **Elm Speedwatch – Statement – Mike Brooks 8/12/17**

Speedwatch is a unique volunteering opportunity – it offers people the chance to meet their neighbours who they may not otherwise get to know, to work together outside to reduce speeding and show road users that their community cares and want to live in a safe, friendly and essentially nice environment.

Speedwatch volunteers form long lasting friendships and the whole community benefit from their actions.

Essentially, the most important thing to ask though is Speedwatch in Elm working in reducing speeding? Yes, I really believe it is.

The Elm group have a relatively modest number of volunteers but are among the most active within the county. Their coordinator is a source of encouragement and enthusiasm to them all, and is without doubt one of the best organisers within the county. She is a champion of the scheme and I personally greatly benefit from her suggestions, requests and challenges.

The volunteers are a very friendly and welcoming group and unlike some schemes are committed to running sessions all year round, and in all weathers. They are incredibly passionate about their community and making it a safer place to live, and I believe should be supported and congratulated.

Their efforts have directly resulted in contributing data to support the LHI bid and the villages benefiting from the speed cushions, flashing lights and advisory 20mph limits, double yellow lines and HGV signage.

I firmly believe that the Elm, Friday Bridge and Coldham group have directly benefited the community and made it a safer place to live and as a group should be warmly congratulated and thanked by their neighbours and by the Parish Council as a whole.