

# WINTERBORNE HOUGHTON TRAFFIC SURVEY 14-20 APRIL 2016

## Overview

Winterborne Houghton Parish Council commissioned Dorset County Council to carry out a traffic survey to measure the volume and speed of vehicles passing through the village. The survey took place between the 14 and 20 April 2016.

A measuring strip was installed at either end of the village (**fig 1**) and the information recorded was downloaded into an Excel spreadsheet. As only two measuring points were available it was not possible to take account of vehicles using Bulbarrow Road known locally as 'The Hollow'. Unfortunately, we were unable to record the data showing vehicle class.



Measuring strip B looking towards W  
Houghton village centre



Measuring strip A looking towards W Stickland

## Volume of traffic travelling in both directions across Point A (Fish Farm End)

During the trial an average of 424 vehicles entered and left the village Monday-Friday and 327 at weekends with Saturday being busier than Sunday. The traffic flow appeared to be constant during the period 0800 – 1800. The chart and graph figures 2 and 3 show this

	Thu 2016-04-14	Fri 2016-04-15	Sat 2016-04-16	Sun 2016-04-17	Mon 2016-04-18	Tue 2016-04-19	Wed 2016-04-20
00:00:00	0	0	3	3	1	0	0
01:00:00	0	0	1	1	0	1	0
02:00:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
03:00:00	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
04:00:00	2	0	1	1	0	2	0
05:00:00	2	0	1	0	0	1	0
06:00:00	5	10	0	0	5	11	5
07:00:00	29	32	7	3	37	36	36
08:00:00	32	28	20	16	33	26	34
09:00:00	37	42	26	27	33	33	37
10:00:00	29	36	42	30	34	29	36
11:00:00	27	25	41	32	25	35	22
12:00:00	36	43	34	25	22	19	19
13:00:00	28	25	31	21	30	20	22
14:00:00	30	36	16	24	30	33	27
15:00:00	31	36	31	28	36	31	38
16:00:00	32	30	20	21	36	41	36
17:00:00	33	28	19	23	28	30	32
18:00:00	36	31	15	17	21	31	30
19:00:00	21	13	13	14	13	11	23
20:00:00	11	6	10	10	15	10	11
21:00:00	13	8	5	5	4	5	11
22:00:00	4	3	8	1	3	2	5
23:00:00	2	5	4	1	2	2	1
	440	437	349	305	408	409	425

Figure 2 Traffic Volumes per day

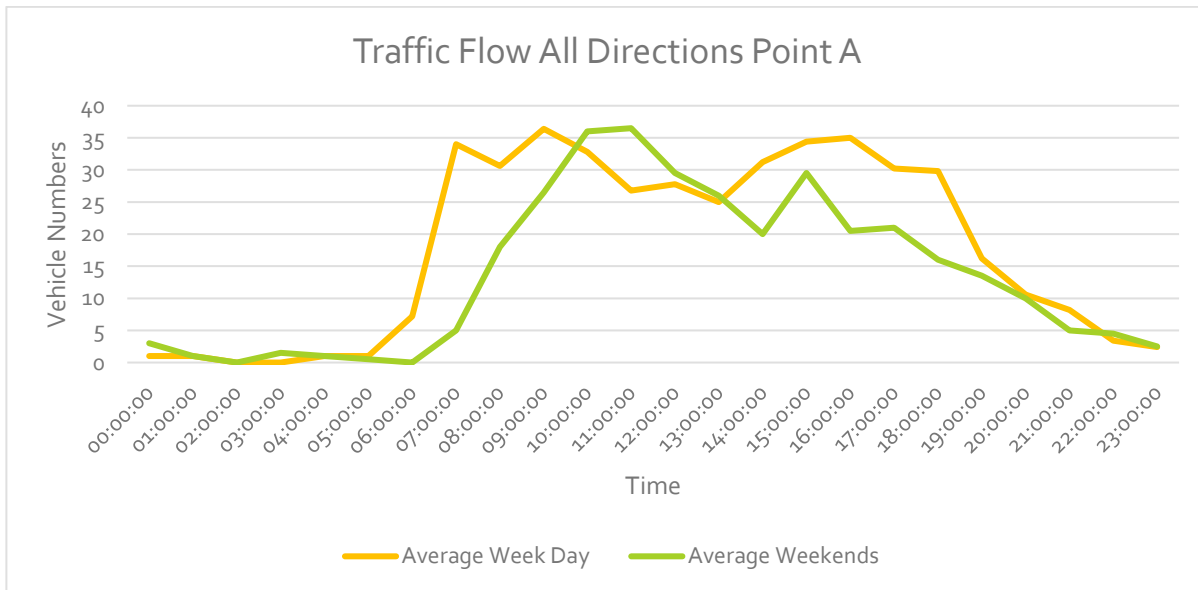


Figure 3 Average traffic volumes

## Volume of Traffic travelling in both directions across Point B (Higher Houghton End)

During the trial period an average of 167 vehicles pass over point B heading towards or from Higher Houghton. During the working week (Monday to Friday) and 157 during the weekend with slightly more on Saturday. This is 44% of the total volume of traffic entering the village from the 'Fish Farm' end. Even allowing for Higher Houghton residents vehicles this clearly shows the extremely high volume of traffic being generated by delivery vehicles and the expanding commercial activities located at Higher Houghton. The highest volume is between 0800 and 1100 and again in the afternoon

	Thu 2016-04-	Fri 2016-04-	Sat 2016-04-16	Sun 2016-04-17	Mon 2016-04-	Tue 2016-04-	Wed 2016-04-
00:00:0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
01:00:0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
02:00:0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
03:00:0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
04:00:0	2	0	1	1	0	3	0
05:00:0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
06:00:0	3	7	0	0	5	5	3
07:00:0	11	10	3	4	10	9	11
08:00:0	18	8	9	10	7	12	16
09:00:0	15	23	15	12	9	16	9
10:00:0	15	18	13	16	15	15	21
11:00:0	11	11	16	20	13	16	7
12:00:0	17	15	10	18	6	3	7
13:00:0	15	9	19	9	12	7	8
14:00:0	16	22	8	5	13	12	5
15:00:0	15	21	15	7	19	8	14
16:00:0	9	11	13	9	16	16	16
17:00:0	13	13	18	8	13	12	13
18:00:0	11	14	4	12	11	14	13
19:00:0	3	5	6	4	6	5	13
20:00:0	3	5	2	7	4	3	1
21:00:0	5	2	0	5	3	2	1
22:00:0	0	2	3	0	1	1	0
23:00:0	1	2	4	1	2	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>158</b>

Fig 4 Traffic volumes both ways passing Point B

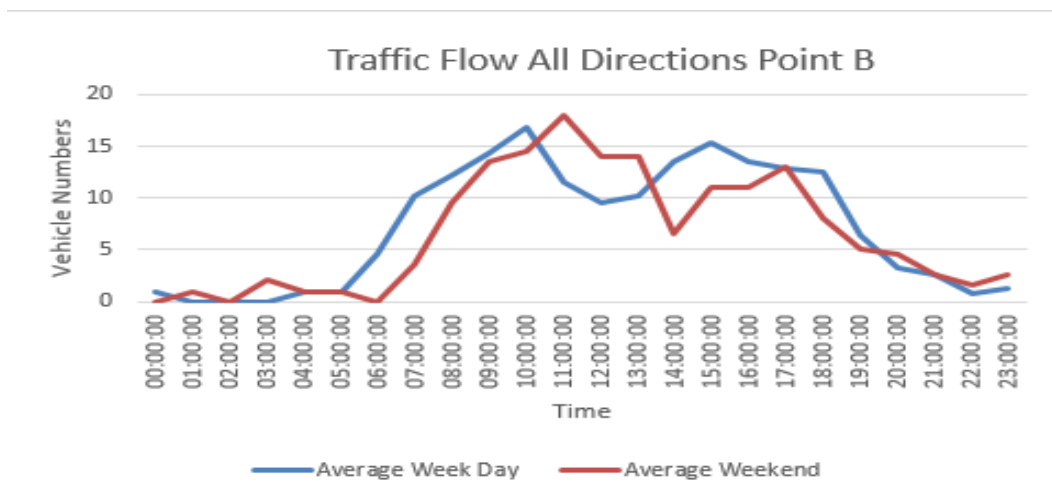


Fig 5 Average Traffic Volumes

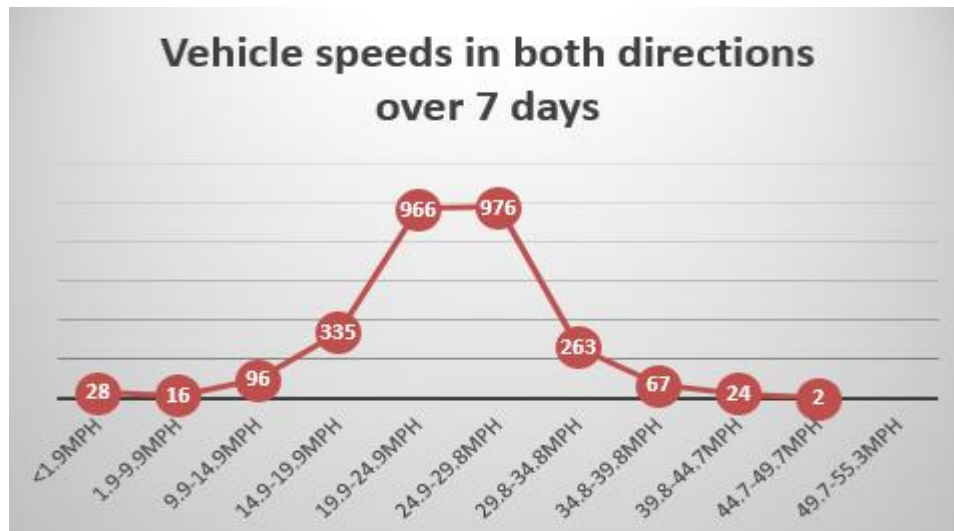
## Speed of traffic travelling across point A (Fish Farm End)

Eastbound from Fish Farm - travelling towards W Stickland											
	<1.9mph	1.9-9.9mph	9.9-14.9mph	14.9-19.9mph	19.9-24.9mph	24.9-29.8mph	29.8-34.8mph	34.8-39.8mph	39.8-44.7mph	44.7-49.7mph	49.7-55.3mph
Thursday	2	2	12	38	76	73	16	4	0		0
Friday	0	1	9	29	89	69	14	2	2	0	0
Saturday	3	3	6	28	61	51	13	8	0	0	0
Sunday	3	0	5	22	57	52	12	3	2	0	0
Monday	3	0	4	24	68	74	26	5	3	0	0
Tuesday	6	1	6	27	64	76	21	5	1	0	0
Wednesday	2	3	7	15	86	64	22	9	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	1%	1%	4%	13%	36%	33%	9%	3%	1%	0%	0%

Westbound from Fish Farm -travelling into W Houghton											
	<1.9mph	1.9-9.9mph	9.9-14.9mph	14.9-19.9mph	19.9-24.9mph	24.9-29.8mph	29.8-34.8mph	34.8-39.8mph	39.8-44.7mph	44.7-49.7mph	49.7-55.3mph
Thursday	2	1	11	27	84	61	20	8	2	1	0
Friday	1	0	10	25	87	74	19	4	2	0	0
Saturday	1	0	6	19	54	62	23	9	1	1	0
Sunday	2	4	5	16	55	48	18	0	1	0	0
Monday	1	0	4	23	67	78	24	2	2	0	0
Tuesday	2	1	6	20	61	89	18	1	4	0	0
Wednesday	0	0	5	22	57	105	17	7	3	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
	1%	0%	3%	11%	34%	37%	10%	2%	1%	0%	0%

**Fig 6 & 7 Traffic Speeds in each direction**

As can be seen from the two tables above, the traffic speed leaving and entering the village is approximately equal, with the majority of the traffic travelling between 20 and 30 mph (70%) There is however 13% of the traffic travelling in excess of 30 mph which is around 50 vehicles per day



**Fig 8**

The graph in Fig 8 shows the speeds of all vehicles entering and leaving the village during the 7-day monitoring period. As can be seen 356 vehicles were travelling in excess of 30 mph

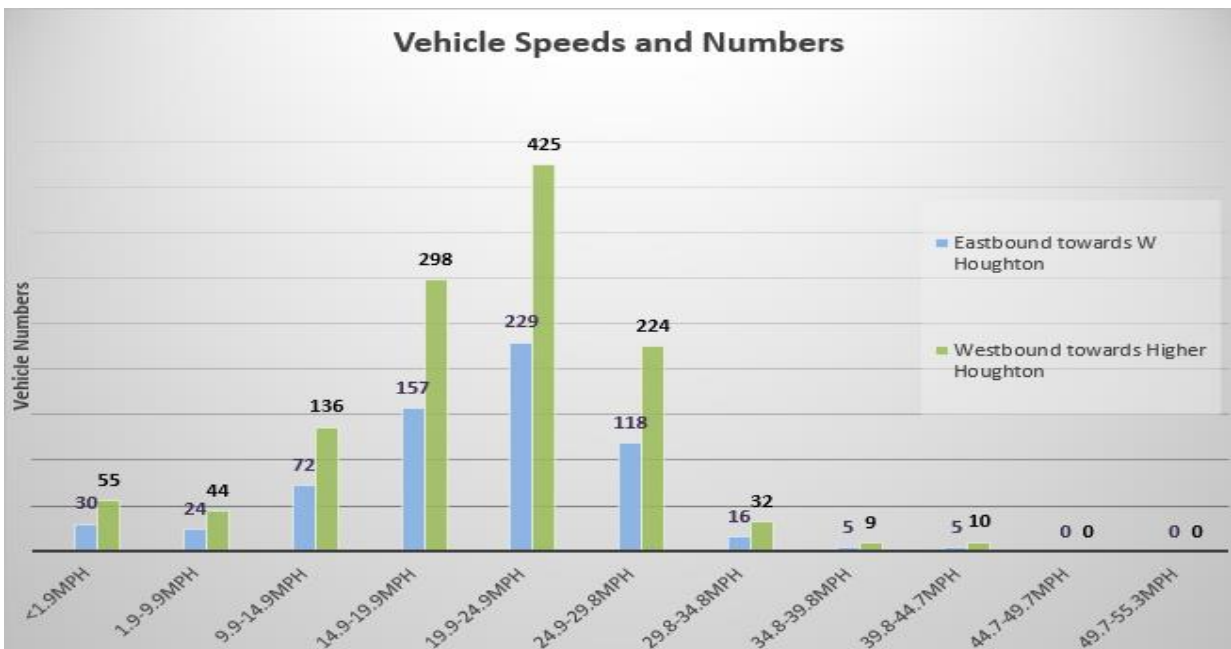
## Speed of traffic travelling across point B (Higher Houghton End)

Leaving Village at Point B and travelling Westbound towards Higher Houghton												
	<1.9mph	1.9-9.9mph	9.9-14.9mph	14.9-19.9mph	19.9-24.9mph	24.9-29.8mph	29.8-34.8mph	34.8-39.8mph	39.8-44.7mph	44.7-49.7mph	49.7-55.3mph	
Thursday	4	4	12	15	24	26	7	0	2	0	0	
Friday	6	4	19	18	29	21	8	0	1	0	0	
Saturday	5	0	7	16	28	19	5	0	1	0	0	
Sunday	4	2	7	15	18	26	4	1	0	0	0	
Monday	3	1	7	13	23	28	7	3	0	0	0	
Tuesday	6	2	11	10	23	24	6	0	0	0	0	
Wednesday	2	1	8	8	28	29	2	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1%</b>			

Entering Village at Point B and travelling Eastbound from the Higher Houghton direction												
	<1.9mph	1.9-9.9mph	9.9-14.9mph	14.9-19.9mph	19.9-24.9mph	24.9-29.8mph	29.8-34.8mph	34.8-39.8mph	39.8-44.7mph	44.7-49.7mph	49.7-55.3mph	
Thursday	3	4	11	21	26	20	2	0	2	0	0	
Friday	1	4	7	26	30	19	3	1	1	0	0	
Saturday	7	2	10	20	23	14	3	2	0	0	0	
Sunday	4	1	11	16	27	11	3	0	1	0	0	
Monday	1	2	11	18	33	12	4	0	0	0	0	
Tuesday	4	3	6	24	22	18	1	0	1	0	0	
Wednesday	5	4	8	16	34	12	0	1	0	0	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1%</b>			

**Figs 9 & 10 – Traffic speeds Eastbound and Westbound from Point B**

The two charts **figs 9 & 10** show that 8% of vehicles leaving W Houghton towards H Houghton are still travelling in excess of 30 mph. This totals around 47 vehicles during the survey period. Considering the residential area is more than 1km long and single track with no pavements it is surprising these vehicles have not naturally slowed down. The speed of vehicles heading Eastbound is significantly lower as they will not have had the opportunity to speed up after exiting the farm track from H Houghton with its sharp left hand bend



## Summary

The survey showed that the average traffic count per day was over 420 vehicles entering and leaving Winterborne Houghton each day

The mean speed through the village is around 25mph. This is not easy to quantify as a significant number of vehicles are couriers and other delivery vans making frequent stops

13% of vehicles, around 50 a day enter the village at speeds in excess of 30 mph. A significant number have been recorded at over 40 mph.

This survey clearly shows that 44% of vehicles (194 on average) pass over **Point B** daily. As there are only 13 properties to the west of **Point B** this does show the impact that the commercial activities at Higher Houghton have on traffic volumes. The survey was undertaken during a 'quiet period'. During the hunting and shooting seasons and 'one off' events such as Pony Club Camp this vehicle count will increase significantly. Nonresidents naturally have less concern for the environment they are passing through than residents, most of whom care passionately about the village.

## Conclusions

Initially the Parish Council had a mandate from the residents to seek a 20 mph speed limit through the village. However, after much investigation and debate and advice from the Police and Crime Commissioner it is felt that a 30 mph limit would be more appropriate and the village meets all the criteria laid down in the Department for Transport guidelines 'Speed Limit Policy' document.

It is suggested that the most sensible and simple solution would be to extend the existing 30 mph limit at West Street in Winterborne Stickland along Water Lane and terminate at the end of Winterborne Houghton.

Winterborne Houghton requires a speed limit below the national limit as a high priority.