

About the Campaign



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We all drive too fast from time to time. And we all have our excuses ready: “I’m late ... I’m busy ... I was tired ... I was distracted ...” But if we’re not careful, speeding becomes a habit. When that happens, when we stop making excuses, when we don’t notice or even care that we are driving too fast - then it becomes a problem.

Obviously, speeding is dangerous. It’s antisocial. It makes our streets and lanes less pleasant for everyone, at just the time when we are being encouraged to get out of our cars and walk or cycle more - for our own health and for the health of the environment. We all know this, yet still we drive too fast. So the question becomes: what can we do to remind us? What can we do to make Plaxtol’s streets and lanes safer for everyone?

The Plaxtol Safe Lanes Driver Scheme was created to address the concerns of residents who felt that drivers habitually go too fast in our parish and that the roads were dangerous for walkers, horse-riders and cyclists as a result. By doing something, as individuals acting together, we can bring down traffic speeds in Plaxtol, so that everyone will be able to enjoy our streets and lanes to the full once more.

The Safe Lanes Driver Scheme is a two-pronged attack comprising driver education and a commitment to safer driving, and addresses the two important areas of concern raised by the Parish Plan.

Driver Education through Road Safety Signage

Designed to highlight to drivers the risks of encountering other road-users, particularly walkers, horse-riders or cyclists, temporary signs will be placed at specific points on our local lanes - blind bends and places where footpaths or bridleways emerge onto the road might be prime “education locations”. The signage is clear and simple, direct in its message that Plaxtol is a Safe Lanes area, so that even drivers who don’t live here or drive here regularly will have the information they need to drive safely. With these signs in place, Plaxtol is now officially a Safe Lanes Area.



PHOTO © K WEBB

Driver Calming with the Safe Lanes Driver Pledge

The Safe Lanes Driver Pledge is how we can all express our commitment to making Plaxtol’s lanes safe lanes. The pledge says that we will drive within the speed limit where it applies, and with due care and attention on all other roads in the parish. It means that new signage can be kept to the minimum necessary. Each person who signs the pledge receives a Safe Lanes Driver sticker to display in the back window of their car, turning them into “mobile traffic calming”. Sometimes we speed because we feel pressurized by the drivers following behind, but by displaying a Safe Lanes sticker we are telling them that we intend to drive safely, at the right speed for the road conditions, relieving that pressure on us to “do as they do”.

This is the Safe Lanes ethos: driver calming, not traffic calming; safe, not just slow.

How to Join the Campaign

If you would like to take part and help make Plaxtol’s lanes Safe Lanes, visit our web page at www.plaxtol.com/safelanes.htm and download a Pledge form for signature today.