

A381 – Speed Indicator Device proposal

Background

There has been a continuous flow of complaints about the speed of traffic through Harbertonford on the A381. This did motivate various attempts to join the police Community Speed Watch scheme but after several years of trying it was recently revealed that it has been decided that there is no safe place suitable for volunteers to stand to measure traffic speeds.

In response to this, an Automated Traffic Survey (using pneumatic tubes across the road) was commissioned in July that ran for a week. It was located just opposite the old-school and on the threshold of the 20 mph zone. The data collected showed that 1000 vehicles per week were traveling at over 35mph. (speeding threshold = $30 + 10\% + 2 = 35$)

Recently, in September, the police did their own automated survey using a radar unit mounted just south of the petrol station. On request, the raw data collected was made available that showed that over 2000 vehicles a week were traveling at over 35mph.

The difference is due to the location of the surveys and the higher traffic volumes of the first (July) survey, which tends to slow the traffic.

But, because the analysis of both surveys' data yield an overall 85th percentile figure of 30mph (85% of vehicles are traveling at 30mph or less), the Police and Devon Highways will not take any action.

Proposal

A resolution of Devon County Council in July 2020 gave Parish Councils the opportunity to install Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) at their own discretion. They do not require authorisation from Devon Highways (DH) or via the SCARF process or HATOC. Several local PCs have taken advantage of this; Lodiswell, Yealmpton, Marlborough, etc.

It is therefore proposed that Harberton Parish Council resolves to install 2 Speed Indicator Devices on the A381 through Harbertonford, one facing north for southbound traffic and one face south for northbound traffic. The possible locations are as indicated below. However, it would be courteous to ask our Neighbourhood Highways Officer (Daren Cole) for advise on where to locate them.

It is suggested that in the first instance a single unit is installed so that its effect can be monitored. The SIDs can collect data that can be downloaded.

Possible Devices and Costs

There are numerous manufacturers and types (google "speed indicator signs"). Below is just a small selection. Cost for basic unit is approximately £3000. It is suggested that in the first

instance we get a unit that is battery powered, with no solar. If it is found that the SID is effective, then it can be upgraded and also a second unit installed.

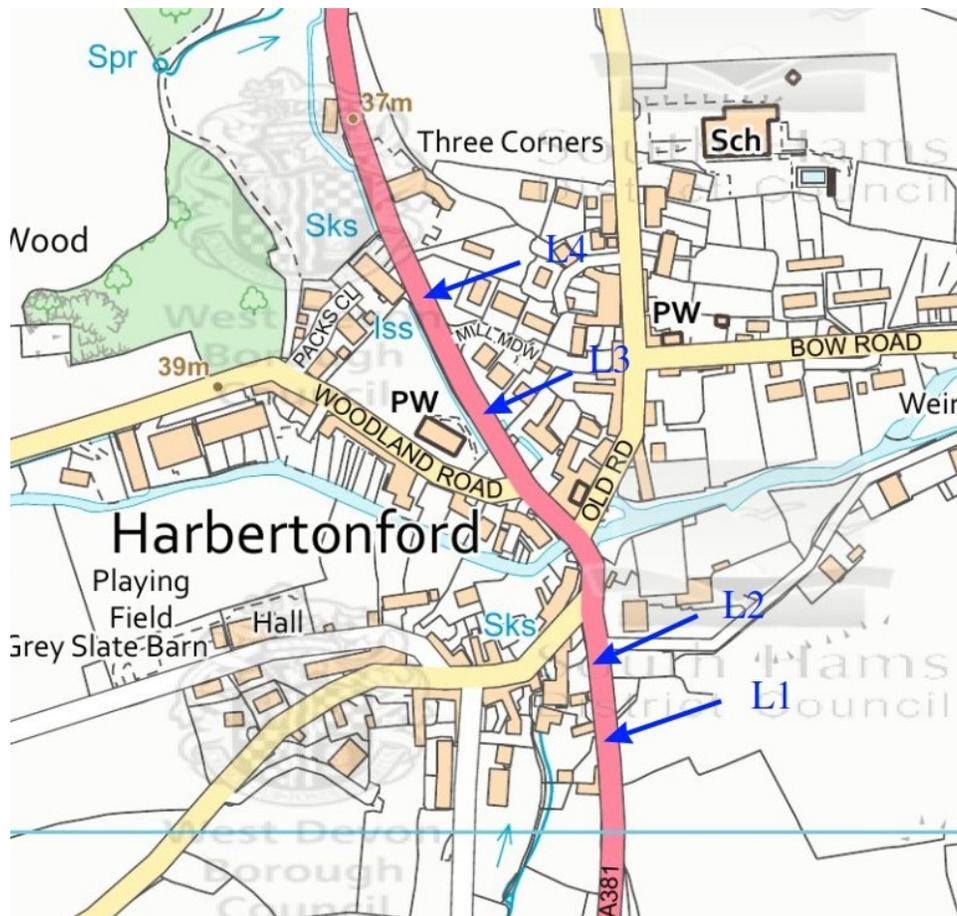
Company: Start Safety
Model: Vario (<https://startsafety.uk/vehicle-activated-signs/sid-vario-vehicle-activated-speed-sign>)
Cost: £2,795 ex VAT

Company: Sid Signs (<https://www.sidsigns.co.uk/>)
Model: Various (see appendix)
Cost: see appendix

Company: Pandora Technologies (<http://radarspeedsigns.co.uk/>)
Model: Various (see appendix)
Cost: see appendix

Company: ElanCity
Model: Evolis (<https://www.elancity.co.uk/evolis-radar-speed-sign/>)
Cost: £? (asked for quote, not yet received)
Note: Used by Loddiswell PC

Suggested Locations



Location 1 – Northbound (on lamp post)



Location 2 – Northbound (temporary on tripod)



Location 3 – Southbound (on lamppost)



Location 4 – Southbound (on telegraph pole)



Appendix - Sid Signs Details and Costs (<https://www.sidsigns.co.uk/>)

Thanks for your enquiry - we have a range of SID signs which can either be mains or battery powered with solar assisted charging and can be post mounted, trolley mounted or tripod mounted

The SLOW DOWN sign @£585.00 + vat for mains power and £960.00 + vat for battery powered with solar assisted charging is the simplest SID sign and can be adjusted to illuminate over a range of vehicle speeds. A programmable version is available which permits the sign to be switched On and Off in 3 separate time bands - ideal for schools etc

The fixed speed signs cost £985.00 + vat for mains powered and £1360.00 + vat for battery powered with solar charging(see attached PDF).

The U Display is a multicolour RGB led array that displays the speed, in real time, of an approaching vehicle together with information messages based on the vehicle's speed. These messages can include a wide range of graphics

The your speed is signs cost £1425.00 + vat for mains powered and £1800.00 + vat for battery powered with solar charging facilities. Construction and dimensions are identical to the Fixed Speed signs

A Bi-Colour sign is available priced @ £845.00 + vat for mains power and £1014.00 + vat for battery power with solar assisted charging which gives a green speed indication when an approaching vehicle is below the speed limit and a red speed indication + slow down when a vehicle exceeds the speed limit.

A variation of the Your Speed Is sign is where we change the orientation of the sign from portrait to landscape. The speed display is set in the left hand side of the sign and either a green SMILEY face is shown when vehicles are below the speed limit or a red MISERABLE face is shown when vehicles are above the speed limit. This version costs £1645.00 for a mains version and £2020.00 for battery powered with solar assisted charging

A Speed Watch system is available comprising a slimline sign powered by a Lithium-Ion battery mounted on a tripod. It is very lightweight and portable and comes with speed data collection.

A range of information/warning signs are available that can be customised for any given requirement.

Detection range is 40m to 100m. Fittings for a variable diameter post are included. We can also supply a male and female bracket system which allows the sign to be easily moved from post to post. These cost £135.00 + vat per post

An additional data collection facility is available on all speed signs via a USB connection to enable data extraction from the unit. In conjunction with this facility the speed display can be turned off but the data recording remains live so driver behaviour can be monitored. A Visualisation program is supplied which permits the data to be shown in graphical format. This data option costs £240.00 + vat

A standalone camera facility is available at £1950.00 + vat. This takes a rear view picture of any vehicle that exceeds the speed limit you have set and superimposes the speed, date and time of the event on the picture which is stored on a high capacity usb stick in jpeg format

Two batteries are supplied with the solar systems together with a mains trickle charger

All the signs are software controlled which allows the user to change system parameters at will. For instance Parish councils sharing a SID can set the sid to each parish's activation parameters for their particular requirements

We give a 2 year return to base warranty. Delivery is from £55.00 + vat depending on Post Code. A post costs £135.00 + vat

Hire charges are £250.00 + vat per month. There are no ongoing maintenance costs or procedures

If you are considering a solar option, or just a battery option, please read the attached PDF on the factors connected with battery power. Please pay particular attention to the Sign activation figures given for each type of battery. To get an approximation of the number of activations possible at your location please click on <https://batterylife.sidsigns.co.uk/> where you will be able to get approximate figures for each battery type.

An on-line configuration file generator is provided together with a comprehensive on-line problem solving facility.

If you click on <https://order.sidsigns.co.uk> where you will find an on-line form which illustrates, and provides costing information on, all our products

Appendix - Pandora Technologies (<http://radarspeedsigns.co.uk/>)

Many thanks for your call and further to your conversation with my colleague, Shirley, please find a few speed sign suggestions across our range which are popular with small towns, villages and Parish Councils, with information and prices as follows:

PTSC 906 Radar speed sign with additional, large 'SLOW DOWN/THANK YOU' message and smiley/sad face £2395.00 + vat
PTSC 904 Radar speed sign with additional 'slow down/thank you' message £2145.00 + vat.
PTSC 903 Radar speed sign with additional 'slow down' message £2045.00 + vat
PTSC 901 Radar speed sign £1895.00 + vat

These signs can be configured, at point of manufacture, to run from mains power, solar or battery.

For a solar operated option, simply add our PTSC 823 Solar kit at £475.00 + vat per sign. This offers a 'fit and forget' 24/7 power solution, provided that the solar panel is facing South and is not in major shadow from trees or buildings.

Alternatively, for battery operation, add our battery charger at £130.00 + vat. The battery operated signs can be configured in one of two ways:

a) A sealed, rechargeable unit so that the sign itself is plugged in for recharging. The onboard battery will allow for 2-3 weeks use on a full charge, depending on traffic flow, before recharge is required.

b) A unit with an accessible battery compartment, so that the battery can be taken out for recharging. Optional spare battery £55.00 + vat each

Optional data-logging facility and PC based traffic statistics software £250.00 + vat per sign. Collected data, such as average traffic volume and average speeds, can then be downloaded via the USB lead provided to a laptop PC and takes less than a minute. Sample pages attached.

The signs and solar arrive complete with post clips or screw-bands for an easy fix to an existing post.

Carriage for 1 nbr sign (including solar where required) to a UK mainland address £35.00 + vat

Please find datasheets attached for the signs listed above, for your perusal. (<https://harbertonford.com/sids/>)

Shirley tells me that you would like to begin with battery operation and if the signs are a success, you would like to upgrade to solar.

I would highly recommend solar operated signs, as there is no requirement for a recharging regime. The solar kit, entirely looks after the 'round the clock' power requirements of our signs.

We can, of course, upgrade a battery operated sign to run from solar, however, as they are configured differently, using different internal parts, we would need to have the sign returned to us, to reconfigure it and add the solar facility.

Cost of a conversion from battery operation to solar operation:

Carriage back to us £45.00 + vat

Conversion including parts and labour £185.00 + vat

Solar kit £475.00 + vat

Carriage back to you of sign and new solar kit £35.00 + vat

Total £740.00 + vat

Our PTSC range is designed and manufactured by us, here in the UK, in an ISO 9001 environment and has a 2 year, return-to-base warranty.

The signs in the PTSC range are also UKAS test house tested to be compliant with BSEN 12966-1 and are TOPAS registered, both for UK highways.

Lead time is typically 10-15 working days from order to despatch.

I hope this is helpful so far.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.