



Bratton Fleming Traffic Calming Action Group If, like me, you are concerned about the speed that traffic passes through Bratton Fleming, then read on..... I live on the main road and regularly walk along the road with either my grand-daughter or my dog or both. I am horrified by the speed of cars passing very close to me and fear that it is only a matter of time before there is an accident with horrendous consequences. I think that this problem has got worse and with the change of location of the village shop, the natural chicane that parked cars outside the old village shop created has now disappeared, allowing traffic to drive past that point on the road faster than previously. Perhaps the only thing that slows traffic down is the potholes in the road! One of the major reasons why the main road is so dangerous is the lack of continuous pavement. For a pedestrian walking from one end of the village to the other, it is necessary to cross the road many times to remain on a pavement; however there are several stretches where there is no pavement and although parked cars help slow the traffic down in places, they also force pedestrians to walk in the road. I am not prepared to wait until a road accident makes people sit up and take notice. I would like to propose a village group to look into these issues and to campaign for safer roads in Bratton Fleming. I am particularly interested in two traffic calming measures: Speed Watch Campaign Physical traffic calming measures such as widening pavements (or creating pavements where they don't exist) thus narrowing the road for vehicles creating a need to slow down. With regards to the Speed Watch campaign, I have had initial contact with the local police who would support this initiative and provide necessary training and equipment, provided a minimum of 6 people were prepared to offer their time. There is no minimum time required to get a scheme like this up and running (it could be as little as one hour a year) but obviously it would be most effective if there were more than 6 people and that they were able to be involved perhaps once a fortnight for a couple of hours. The data we would collect through the speed gun gets transferred directly to the police who can then caution and if necessary prosecute repeat offenders, so our work would not be wasted. However, the major benefit to such a scheme would be the publicity this would bring to our campaign to reduce speeding through Bratton Fleming. With regards to physical measures, this would have to involve the district county council. I have spoken with the clerk of our Parish Council (Terry Squire) to find out what has been attempted before and he is very happy for individuals to attempt to get progress on this but obviously we would need to keep the Parish Council informed. I have various ideas about what we might propose, but I am very keen to hear other villagers' views on this issue, as it would be pointless suggesting something that other people would resist. For example, I can't think of anything worse than the council installing sleeping policemen (Road bumps) as I think we would all hate this. If you share my concerns about the safety of our children, grand-children, pets and all residents of Bratton Fleming, please make contact with me to let me know your thoughts and if you are prepared to get involved in some way. Email is probably the best way of initiating contact but I'm happy for you to get in touch whichever way suits you best. Once I have heard from a few people, perhaps we can meet to discuss these issues? The meeting will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 12th June at my house; please do let me know if you can come. Caroline Tibble, Castlegate, Bratton Fleming, 01598710767 mobile 07508393926 Email: carolinejeft@gmail.com

