

## Broadband and speedwatch

### 1) Traffic in Coton

There is a lot of concern in the village about the speed of traffic and the increasing use of Coton as a short cut between Madingley Road and Barton Road.

Proposals from residents to improve road safety have so far included:

- Chicanes at the entrances to the village.
- A pavement across the Recreation Ground from the Brook Lane crossing to The Footpath to make it safer to get to the Recreation Ground from the main village.
- Changing the road priorities at the junction of Cambridge Road and the High Street.
- Interactive signs.
- Double yellow lines to prevent parking at the corners of the High Street.

It is likely that any road improvements would have to be funded by village through the parish precept (part of Council tax) so it is important that any changes are the best use of our limited funds. If you have any suggestions, or comments on the proposals put forward so far please put them on the village website <http://cotonvillage.co.uk/2010/06/01/traffic-in-coton/> or contact the Parish Clerk by email [cotonpc@lgs-services.co.uk](mailto:cotonpc@lgs-services.co.uk) or by telephone on 01954 210241.

#### *Can you help?*

Other local villages are using Community Speedwatch, which is a police-coordinated scheme to reduce the speed of traffic through residential areas. A portable speed camera measures the speed of cars going past. Drivers travelling above the speed limit are sent a warning letter by the police. This has two potential benefits – one, reminding drivers not to speed, and two, collecting data on the number of vehicles through the village, and the speed of the vehicles. The police lend the camera equipment free of charge but volunteers are needed to run the camera (at times and locations decided by the volunteers). This would give us a better idea of the overall picture of traffic in the village and inform any decisions about road improvements. Speedwatch has been popular in other villages. More details can be found here <http://speed-watch.org/>

Training to use the camera lasts 2 hours. After that, the camera can be borrowed and used at any time (subject to sharing its use with our neighbouring villages) by two or three trained volunteers. No session should last more than about an hour.

If you are able to offer a few hours of your time to the Speedwatch scheme, please contact the Parish Clerk by email [cotonpc@lgs-services.co.uk](mailto:cotonpc@lgs-services.co.uk) or by telephone on 01954 210241.

## **2) Do you want faster/more reliable broadband in Coton?**

If Coton and local villages get enough people to vote on the BT website for the Madingley exchange, we win the chance for fast broadband.

The five areas in the UK which have the largest percentage of votes by December 31st 2010 win the chance to bring BT Infinity (fast broadband) to their area, and BT will give a donation of computer equipment worth £5000 to a local community project.

If you have a telephone number that starts 01954 2 then register your vote here <http://www.racetoinfinity.bt.com/>

To be successful, we need as many people in the village as possible to sign up because other areas are already working hard to get the most votes. It doesn't matter if you don't already have broadband, everyone has a vote if they have a telephone number that starts 01954 2. So if you don't have internet access, please ask a friend or neighbour to vote on your behalf.

There are 2132 people on the Madingley exchange. You can see how close we are to being in the top five here <http://racetoinfinityandbeyond.veadas.net/league>.

The district councillor for Caldecote ward has set up a Facebook page for the Madingley campaign here <http://on.fb.me/Madingley>.