**Highways Report**

**June/July 2025 Report**

From the 30th June 2025 Councils across the country must publish reports on pothole repairs. I’m not sure this will change anything but I thought you would like to know anyway.

Last month Dan Lands talked about the overgrowth on the Clacton Road. Nine days later an email was recieved citing ‘no immediate action needed’ this despite the fact that it is so overgrown that stepping off the path onto the very dangerous road at some point is unavoidable.

Hiltop Crescent had a bad week. First there was a damaged drain that poured water down the road for two days and reporting the problem proved very frustrating as my name, email address, landline and postcode proved to be not enough information to submit the report. I gave in and gave them the rest of the information required and then was presented with those little ‘captcha’ images after which the site promptly crashed. Nevertheless thankfully the drain was repaired the next day.

The following day a car transporter was parked up on the pavement in the very narrow road and when it had moved off quite a few of the quite newly laid kerbs were broken/upended or separated completely from the holding cement.

Meanwhile The road break up opposite the Crematorium was filled and the sign on the corner of Bentley Road was finally repaired and even the destinations point in the right direction.

**Speedwatch Report**

**June 2025**

Last month I was asked if we had noticed drivers driving at lower speeds? When we are ‘watching’ the answer would be mostly Yes but overal sadly I had to say no.

The Essex Speedwatchers Newsletter (which is the whole of Essex, not just Weeley) for May seems to confirm this with an increase from 1094 warning letters sent out in April to 1283 in May.

This total does not include the 8451 educational courses that were handed out usually instead of ‘points’.

There were also 11 more serious injuries caused by road accidents in the same time making a total of 81 and there were 306 careless driving offences prosecuted.

Back here in Weeley we planned 5 sessions, 1 was called off due to high winds. In the remaining 4 sessions we logged 65 speeding vehicles. 1 vehicle had no MOT, another vehicle had no tax.

There were 5 repeaters.

In a precedent for Weeley Speedwatchers in a one hour session on the Colchester Road there were over 51 drivers doing over the 30mph limit but not exceeding the 36mph which is the point at when they are logged, while certainly not an accurate count it is still pretty scary.

Thorpe Road once again generated the most speeders in a 1 hour session at 21 speeders.

I have included this last part which has nothing to do with Weeley Speedwatchers but still has to do with speed and Weeley simply as it may be of interest to you.

On 10th of June Police Roads Unit were conducting Speed checks near the Weeley Heath Fire Station when they detected a motorbike speeding at more than 50mph on the 30mph road.

An officer indicated for them to stop which they didn’t want to do so they continued on at speed. Eventually a 42 year old man was arrested. A four figure sum of money and drugs were found. He was charged with suspicion of possesion with intent to supply, driving in excess of the speed limit and failing to stop for the Police.

When you and I were both about to give a sigh of relief that this report was finished I recieved an email from PC James Nickless who is the new Tendring Rural Officer. He stated that Rural road safety is one of the teams priorities. Therefore he offered his help with Tendring’s Speedwatch groups when we are out on any of our sessions. We of course immediately replied (not quite biting his hand off) knowing what a total difference a Police Presence makes both in the actual speed of drivers and the abuse.

You will be pleased to know he still has both his hands but we are still awaiting a reply as to when he may join us.

And now you really can breathe a sigh of relief!.