

YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday 23 June 2021 at 7.30pm

Yarnfield Park Conference Centre

Present (for all or part of the meeting): -

Councillors:

David Beeston	Stella Hughes
Malcolm Beeston	Sally Parkin (Chairperson)
Frank Cromey	Brian Rushton
Brian Eyre	

Also in attendance: Cllr Pert (SCC), Cllr Nixon (SBC)

Officer in attendance: John Fraser, Clerk to the Parish Council

Public at the meeting: 0

Live on Facebook: 8

Apologies

21-296 Apologies were received from; Cllr James (SBC)

Declarations of Interest

21-297 Nil.

Public Question Time (30 minutes)

21-298 Nil

Community Speed Watch

21-299 This item was deferred to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

21-300 A copy of the Road Safety update report is attached at Appendix 1.

Road safety improvements - Cold Meece village gates

21-301 A proposal was received to install village gates on each of the entrance roads to Cold Meece. Based on the work commissioned by the former parish council the gates would cost in the region of £900 - £1,200 each if sourced from Glasdon UK Ltd.

21-302 Further work is needed to identify the location for the siting of the gates. This work is to be coordinated with the change in speed limit in Cold Meece at will happen later this year.

21-303 **Resolution:** It was resolved that more prices are obtained to allow the Council to reach a decision on the feasibility of the proposal.

Reports from Borough and County Councillors

21-304 Cllr Pert, Staffordshire County Council:

- The twin track strategy of testing and vaccination is really important. The 7 day case rate for Stafford has increased in the last few weeks from a rate of 9 per 100,000 people to 37 per 100,000. The County and Stafford Borough is doing well but there is a clear increase in the number of cases.
- Where out breaks are identified it is vital that these are reacted to quickly. The number of Covid-19 cases in the University Hospital of North Midlands at the peak of the outbreak was in excess of 400 cases, there are now only 7.
- A webinar has been held to provide guidance to parish councils on the vaccination programme. Another webinar is now being arranged; details will be circulated once these have been confirmed.
- The Borough Council will be running a webinar on health and wellbeing focusing on the benefits of walking; details will be circulated once these have been confirmed.
- There has been a delay with the consultation proposals for Swynnerton double yellow line and traffic management arrangements and this is affecting the timing of the double yellow line consultation in Yarnfield. Hopefully, this will start after the school summer holidays.

21-305 Cllr. Nixon, Stafford Borough Council:

- £35m has been distributed to businesses in the borough who have been affected by Covid-19.
- Grants of £2,000 are still available for businesses involved in fitness, leisure and the hospitality industry.
- The Planning Department is facing a significant increase in workload, and this is having a detrimental effect on performance. The Borough Council is in the process of recruiting additional staff.
- The Borough Council is encouraging residents to submit details of their walks in the area so that these can be promoted.
- Cases of fly tipping seem to be on the increase. Complaints about fly tipping should be reported to the Borough Council's Environmental Health Service.
- A question was asked about the demolition of the gym on Yarnfield Park being undertaken before the planning application had been determined by the Borough Council. There are several other examples of issues such as this which can be attributed to the staffing issues in the planning department.

Update on HS2

Update on the work of the Stone Rail Head Crisis Group

21-306 HS2 Public Consultation of February 2021 - The HS2 Minister (Andrew Stephenson) issued the Ipsos Mori report regarding the public consultation on 13 May 2021:

- 499 responses were received.
- There was no reference to Y&CMPC response, but Stone Town (twice) and Chebsey (once) were cited in the report.

- Staffordshire County Council comments (three) all relate to rail connectivity, but not the lines of key interest and maximum benefits.
- The SRCG was mentioned once, but the comment related to inferior post-HS2 train service was taken out of context.
- A fuller assessment will be given when SRCG holds the next public meeting.

- 21-307 The HS2 Minister promised to give a statement in June 2021, but this has not yet happened.
- 21-308 SRCG is lobbying hard for the Stone Railhead to be moved to Aldersey's Rough and be implemented via a Transport & Works Act Order. T&WAO was used on Phase One to make a significant change following Royal Assent. The power to implement such orders lies with the Secretary of State for Transport.
- 21-309 Aldersey's Rough will save at least £93 million in direct costs compared to Stone and £475 million in indirect costs on Phase 2b by not building the Ashley Railhead and IMB-R.
- 21-310 Aldersey's Rough will facilitate the reopening of the former Newcastle to Market Drayton line, thereby improving connectivity to HS2 and across the North West and Midlands and achieve Government's objectives under the levelling up agenda
- 21-311 SRCG has also held meetings with Highways England regarding the existing M6 bridge on Yarnfield Lane and problems associated with the number of HGVs accessing the Yarnfield Transfer Node.

Funding bids - next steps

- 21-312 The HS2 Community and Environment fund is being administered on behalf of HS2 Ltd by Groundwork UK.
- 21-313 Groundwork UK will only consider one application from an organisation at a time. A second application can only be submitted six months after a satisfactory Final Completion Report has been submitted to demonstrate that the first project has achieved its outcomes.
- 21-314 For capital projects, the Final Completion Report is submitted 12 months after the capital work has finished.

Other issues

- 21-315 HS2 Truth Trail will arrive in this locality on Sunday 27 June.
- 21-316 The Government has launched a consultation into the use of the Hybrid Bill process. Further details on the consultation and a response by the Parish Council will be available for the July meeting. The deadline for submission of a response is 23 July 2021

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 4 May 2021 - To approve the draft minutes (as previously circulated) and to consider any matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

- 21-317 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 4 May 2021 were approved as a correct record of the meeting.
- 21-318 There were no matters arising.

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4 May 2021 - To approve the draft minutes (as previously circulated) and to consider any matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

- 21-319 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4 May 2021 were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

Matters arising

- 21-320 **Minute 21-250:** the visit to Cold Meece to review the safety at the junctions of South Road and Meece Road is outstanding and a date for the meeting will now be made as a matter of urgency.
- 21-321 **Minute 21-265:** the organisers of the motocross events at Baden Hall do not require planning permission but rely on a 14 day rule for permitted developments involving "motor car and motorcycle racing including trials of speed and practising for these activities".
- 21-322 It is unclear whether the 14 day rule included the days needed to set up and then dismantle the event or only related to the event itself.
- 21-323 Over the last 12 months residents have seen an increase in the use of the site and an increase in the number of motor vehicles competing at events.
- 21-324 Residents affected by these events should contact either their parish councillor or Environmental Health at Stafford Borough Council (Tel: 01785 619402 email: ehtechsupport@staffordbc.gov.uk)
- 21-325 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the Borough Council Planning Department is contacted to establish whether the 14 day rule includes days for setting up and then dismantling the event.
- 21-326 **Minute 21-282 (a):** clearance of the footpath from Eccleshall to Cold Meece. This work has been undertaken by Streetscene and is being paid for by Eccleshall Parish Council. Streetscene has been contacted to ask for a price for the work to extend into this parish area.
- 21-327 The work being done by Eccleshall Parish Council has not been completed and it is their intention to clear the footpath to the Rose Garden in Cold Meece.
- 21-328 **Resolution:** It was resolved to contact Streetscene once it has been established what work is to be undertaken by Eccleshall Parish Council.
- 21-329 **Minute 21-282(b):** use of Yarnfield Lane by HGVs and other large vehicles. A visit to the Cold Meece industrial estate has been undertaken to identify businesses that are likely to generate traffic that would be barred from using Yarnfield Lane because of the weight restriction on the lane. A letter will now be sent to these companies reminding them of the weight restriction.
- 21-330 **Minute 21-282(c):** Footpath 10, public footpath diversion order. The drafting errors in the order have been brought to the attention of the County Council's Principal Rights of Way Officer.
- 21-331 The legislations surrounding public footpaths means that the definitive statement contains details that were prepared at the time of the first statement being published. For this reason, the statement will contain footpath descriptions, specifically start and finish details, that may not relate to current usage. It is quite common for the landmarks or features written in the original statements to no longer exist. The statement and map are designed to be used together so that

the map provides the clarity that the statement may have lost over time in relation to the start and end point and the route a right of way takes.

21-332 Following an exchange of emails with the Principal Rights of Way Officer and legal team the Parish Council objections to the order were withdrawn.

21-333 This issue has identified a need for training on the law surrounding public footpaths and the role of the definitive map and statement.

21-334 **Resolution:** It was resolved that:

- i. The withdrawal of the Parish Council's objections to the diversion order was noted.
- ii. Enquiries are made to identify what training might be available to councillors on the law relating to public footpaths.

21-335 **Minute 21-282(e):** Damage to the village green. Severn Trent has now agreed to pay the Parish Council to complete the repairs needed to the village green. A quotation for the work has been received from Trent Grounds Maintenance and a cheque from Severn Trent has been received to cover the cost of this work. (£2,150.00 + VAT)

21-336 **Resolution:** It was resolved that Trent Ground Maintenance are engaged to undertake the repairs to the village green.

21-337 **Minute 21-283:** Parish Spring Clean. This event was extremely well supported with 42 volunteers giving over 120 hours of volunteering time, working across the whole of the parish. All the volunteers have been contacted to thank them for their involvement.

21-338 Plans are now being prepared to hold another event in the autumn.

Neighbourhood Plan – update on actions taken

21-339 An application has been made to Locality to support the start-up costs and housing needs assessment for the Neighbourhood Plan.

- iii. Grant support - £1,435
- iv. Technical support - Housing Needs Assessment to be undertaken by AECOM

21-340 If successful it is intended the work will take place between 19 July 2021 – 31 October 2021

21-341 The Parish Council's application to Stafford Borough Council to designate the whole parish as a Neighbourhood Planning Area will be considered by the Borough Council on 5 August 2021.

21-342 The next step will be to put out a request to encourage members of the community to support the development of the neighbourhood plan.

21-343 **Resolution:** It was resolved that a working group, including members of the public, is formed.

Summer picnic on the village green – to agree arrangements

21-344 A proposal was made to hold a summer picnic on the village green in August. The proposal was to hold the event in conjunction with St Mary's Church Swynnerton.

21-345 The proposed date for the picnic is 14 August, with an alternative date of 21 August should bad weather prevent the picnic taking place.

21-346 **Resolution:** It was resolved that:

- i. A summer picnic is organised in conjunction with St Mary's Church to be held on 14 August 2021.
- ii. A letter is sent to the Borough Council to advise them that the picnic is taking place and that the insurance and risk assessment will be coordinated by the Parish Council.

Parish Clerk's report:

Budget

- 21-347 The Parish Council's bank reconciliation balance on 4 May 2021 was £14,982.14.
- 21-348 The 2020/21 VAT refund has been received = £1,579.49
- 21-349 Schedule of Payments since the last meeting = £3,554.99
- 21-350 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the schedule of payments in Appendix 2 was approved.

Update report

BT phone box consultation

- 21-351 A response to the BT consultation on the proposal to close the phone box in Yarnfield has been sent to the Borough Council who have confirmed: "The information was sent over with a copy of yours and the other areas comments, the only detail received from BT is that they have received the information and note the objections."

Newsletter

- 21-352 The June 2021 edition of the Newsletter has been distributed around the parish. The Newsletter continues to grow, and this edition was the largest so far produced, running to 12 pages. The cost of printing was £397.00 for 1,000 copies, against a budget of £600.00.
- 21-353 A digital version, based on a free platform <https://issuu.com/> was also produced and published on the Parish Council's Facebook page. The disadvantage to these free platforms is that advertising does appear alongside the newsletter.

Western Power/Network Plus

- 21-354 Network Plus will be starting work on Yarnfield Lane on 27 July 2021.
- 21-355 Work continues to be done to secure funding from Western Power/Network Plus to pay for the defibrillator on Ashdale Park.
- 21-356 A request has been made to meet with representatives of Western Power to discuss details of how the proposed work will affect residents and what mitigations can be put in place to minimise the impact of the work.

Police Firing Range

- 21-357 The next significant event at the firing range will take place on 3 August 2021. Officers at the Borough Council's Environmental Health Service have agreed to install monitoring equipment to assess the level of noise and its impact on residents.

Barratt West Midlands

21-358 Barratt West Midlands have been contacted about:

- a) the growth of weeds on the road verges on Yarnfield Park,
- b) the overgrown strip of land opposite Springfields First School, which they are the owners off,
- c) the location and adequacy of litter bins on Yarnfield Park.

21-359 A response to these requests has not yet been received and a further approach has been made.

Growth of weeds on road verges in Yarnfield

21-360 Service requests have been logged with the County Council about the growth of weeds on roads in Yarnfield. The County Council responded to these requests and the weeds have now been sprayed.

21-361 It will be important to establish when this work will have an effect and when we will see an improvement in the state of the road verges.

21-362 **Resolution:** It was resolved that further work is undertaken to address these concerns with the Borough and County Council.

Yarnfield Park Residents' Group

21-363 Work to secure answers to the issues raised by the residents on Yarnfield Park about grounds maintenance and the enforcement of the planning conditions for the site continues. To gather the views of residents it was proposed that a public meeting is arranged now that there is some relaxation in the Covid-19 restrictions.

21-364 **Resolution:** It was resolved that arrangements are made to hold a public meeting for the residents of Yarnfield Park.

Village Green Project - section 106 funding

21-365 A private meeting for councillors is to be arranged with the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust to develop the village green project. Invitations to the meeting will also be made to the two borough councillors for the parish and the lead officer at Stafford Borough Council.

21-366 A visit has been arranged for councillors to go to the Millennium Green at Derrington.

Drake Hall Prison

21-367 An approach has been received from Drake Hall Prison to develop some community projects that prisoners could be involved with in the parish.

21-368 The projects to be undertaken, and controls that will be put in place, will be developed in conjunction with the Prison's Resettlement Team.

21-369 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the Parish Council will support the proposal to work with Drake Hall Prison and identify suitable projects.

Boundary Commission Review

- 21-370 A consultation is being held by the Boundary Commission over the parliamentary boundaries in England. If the review is adopted the parish would be included in a new parliamentary area called Stoke on Trent South.
- 21-371 Details of the review, and how residents can comment on the proposals, will be posted on the parish council website.

PCSO report

- 21-372 The PCSO was not available to attend the meeting. The report of the PCSO on activity in the previous month is attached at Appendix 3. Discussions with the PCSO have taken place over two issues of concern raised by councillors.

Enforcement of parking restrictions on Highlows Lane/Yarnfield Lane junction: if the double yellow line proposals are adopted the enforcement of the parking restrictions will fall to Stafford Borough Council to administer.

Incidents of petty vandalism in the parish: any concerns about vandalism can be reported to the PCSOs to investigate.

- 21-373 The Staffordshire Police Road Policing Unit have been supporting the work of the parish Community Speed Watch and this has proved to be very beneficial.
- 21-374 **Resolution:** It was resolved that an invitation be made to the Staffordshire Police Road Policing Unit to attend a future meeting of the council.

Reports from Parish Councillors on meetings/courses attended

Young Person's Reference Group

- 21-375 Cllr Parkin attended an online training event run by the National Association of Local Councils about involving young people in the work of parish councils. The event was very useful and identified several ways of engaging with young people and the benefits this could bring to the work of parish councils.
- 21-376 Cllr Parkin has joined a national reference group which has been established to develop the ideas being put forward.
- 21-377 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the Parish Council develop its own young person's reference group.

Safeguarding

- 21-378 Cllr Parkin has undertaken on-line safeguarding training.
- 21-379 **Resolution:** It was resolved that a Safeguarding policy is prepared for the Parish Council.

Planning - to consider any planning applications in the parish

- 21-380 Planning application - 21/34478/S17

- 21-381 The application (No. 14) to Stafford Borough Council is one of many along the route of HS2 Phase 2a and relates to Early Environmental Works. The application sets out proposals to construct ponds, plant hedgerows and trees and to carry out ecological works on land from Yarnfield Lane. None of this work is located within the footprint of the Stone Railhead/IMB-R but is instead mitigation on neighbouring land.
- 21-382 Section 3 of the accompanying Written Statement provides a summary of what is proposed, although it is made clear that this application under Schedule 17 of the Hybrid Act relates only to the earthworks required to construct the 15 ponds and not the mitigation proposals themselves, which are already permitted by the passing of the Hybrid Bill. The excavated material from the ponds will be formed into nearby bunds, which will themselves form part of the ecological works.
- 21-383 The sites will be accessed from farm gates on Yarnfield Lane. Temporary gravel or matting roads will then be laid to enable access for the construction vehicles.
- 21-384 It is proposed that the work starts in 2021 quarter 4 and is completed by 2022 quarter 4
- 21-385 There are no details in the application of the number of construction vehicles required to carry out the works, or what will be required in terms of site offices/welfare facilities for the construction workforce. There are therefore no details about the number of vehicles that will visit the site each day or whether there is any provision to prevent them from carrying mud and debris onto Yarnfield Lane.
- 21-386 These works are of little consequence compared to the works that will follow and therefore it is proposed that no comment is made on the proposals.
- 21-387 **Resolution:** It was resolved that a "no comment" response to the application is submitted.

Date and time of next meeting

- 21-388 Wednesday 14 July 2021 at 7.30pm



Signed

Chairperson of the Parish Council

Date 14 July 2021

Meeting Closed: 9:15pm



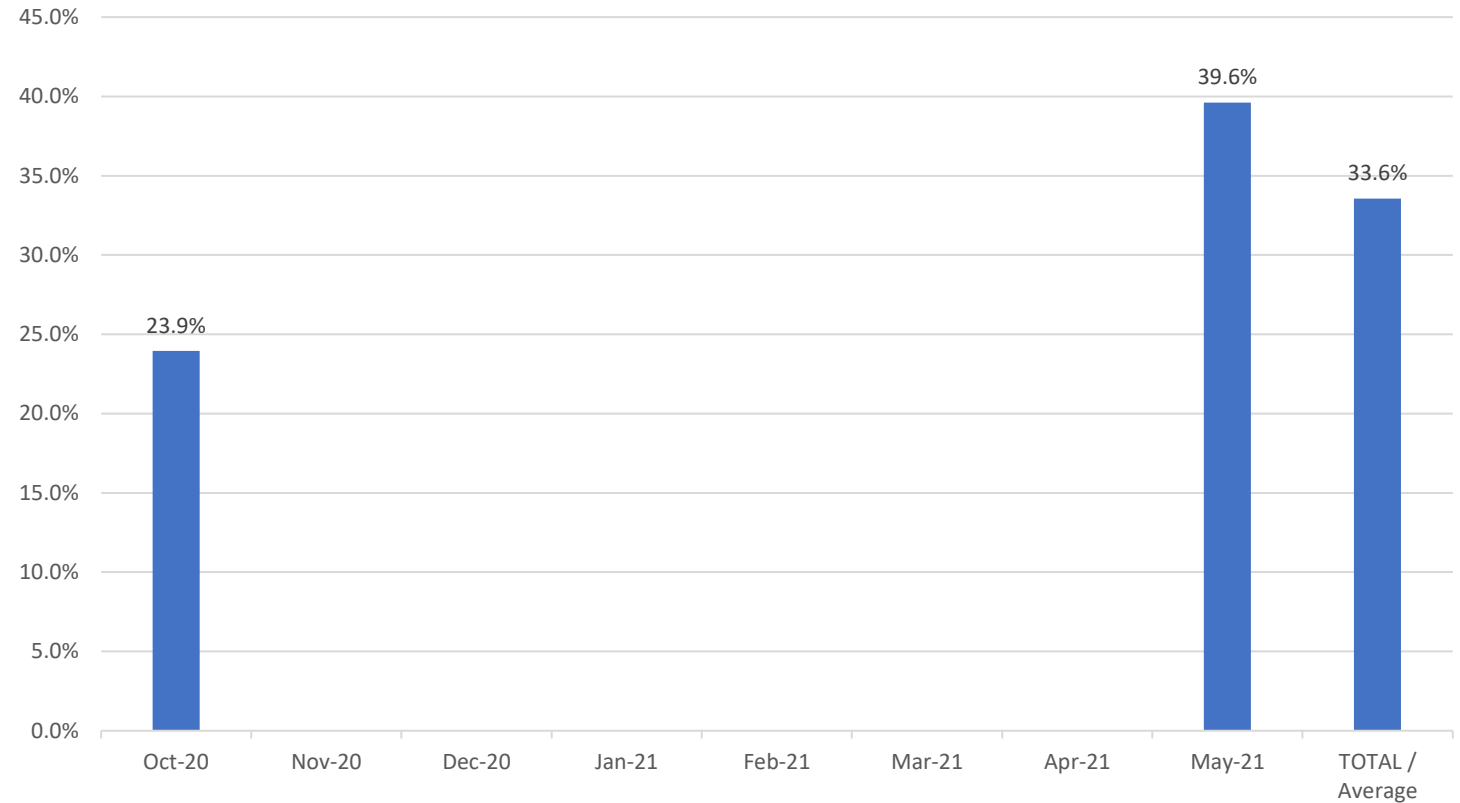
Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council

May 2021

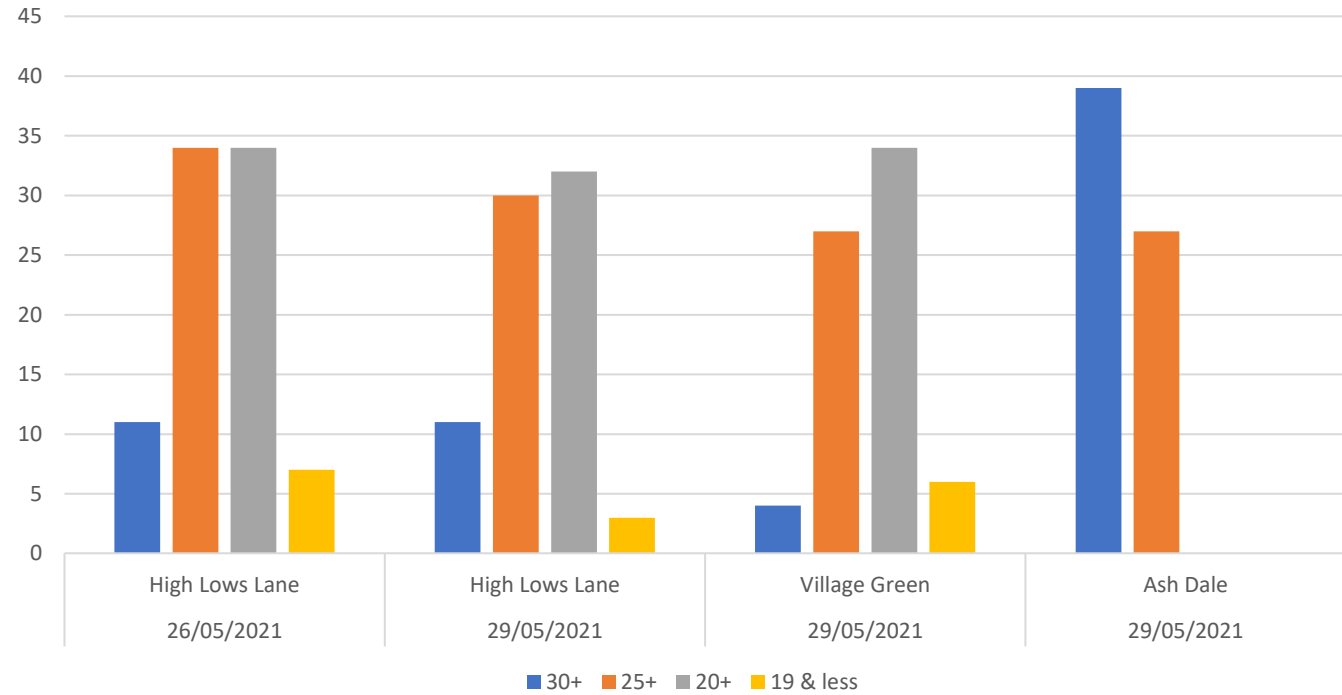
Yarnfield CSW

- **Headlines**
- Number of trained and active volunteers 5
- Number of volunteers awaiting training 3
- Supported by Staffs Police on 2 occasions
- Staffs Police present on 2 occasions

Yarnfield CSW
% of Speeding Vehicles



CSW Data Analysis

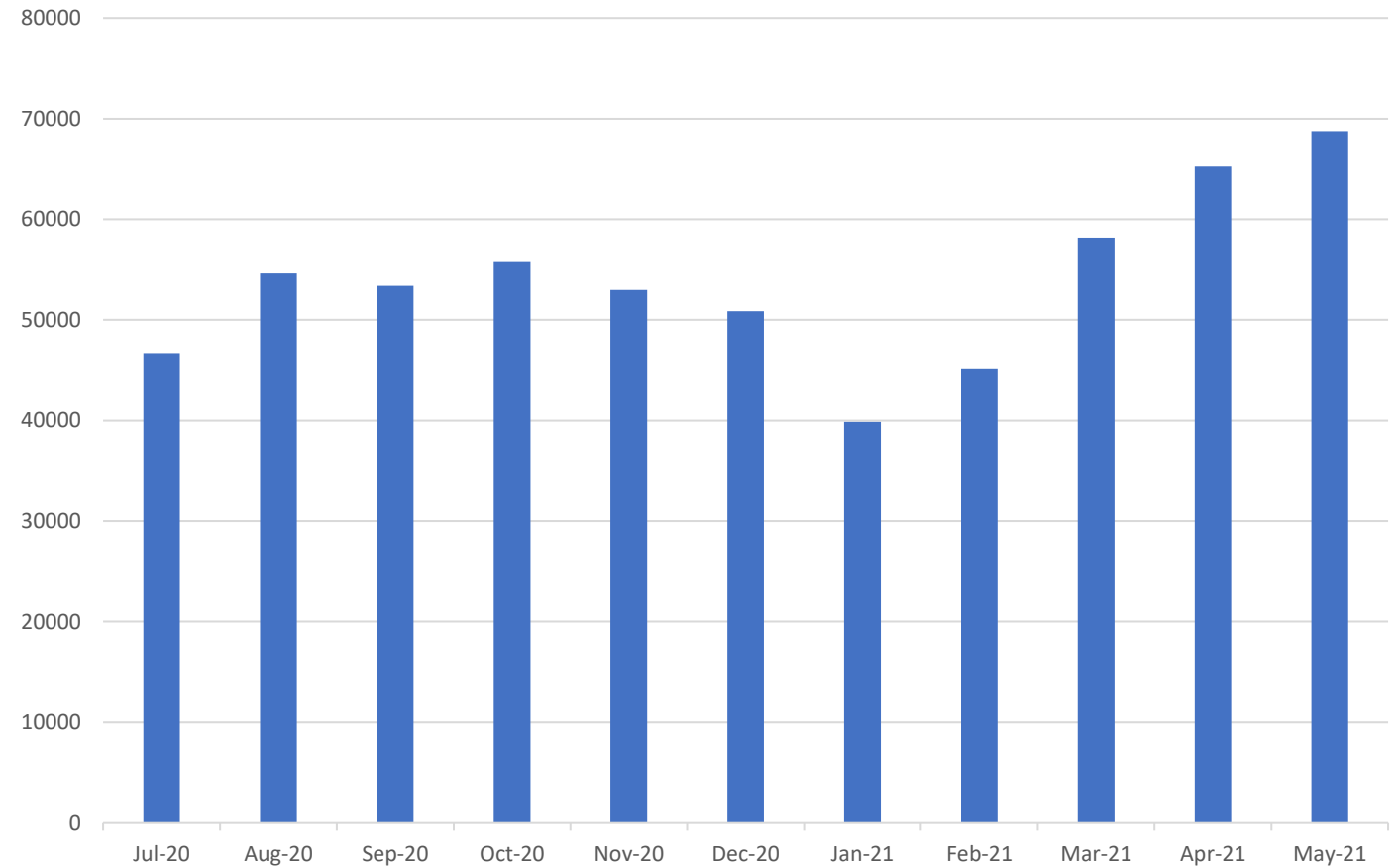


	26/05/2021	29/05/2021	29/05/2021	29/05/2021
	High Lows Lane	High Lows Lane	Village Green	Ash Dale
30+	11	11	4	39
25+	34	30	27	27
20+	34	32	34	
19 & less	7	3	6	
Total	86	76	71	66

Y&CM PC ElanCity Radar – Traffic Count

May 2021 = 68,758
Average over 11 months = 53,785

TOTAL Traffic Count From Cold Meece

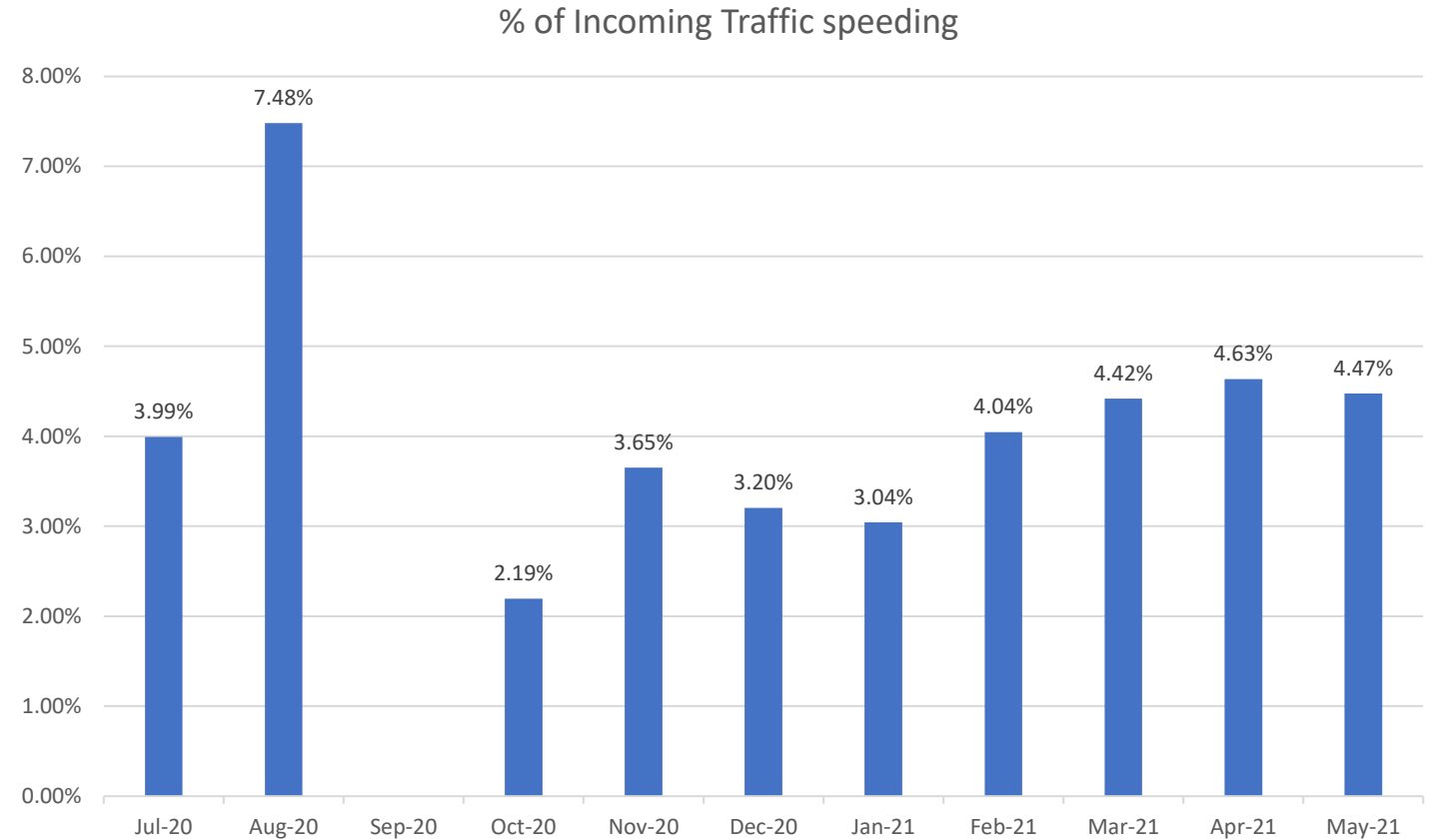


Y&CM PC ElanCity Radar – Speed incoming

Headlines

V85%, V50 & V30 now stable

Drop in speeding for the first time in 3 months



Y&CM PC ElanCity Radar – Speed outgoing

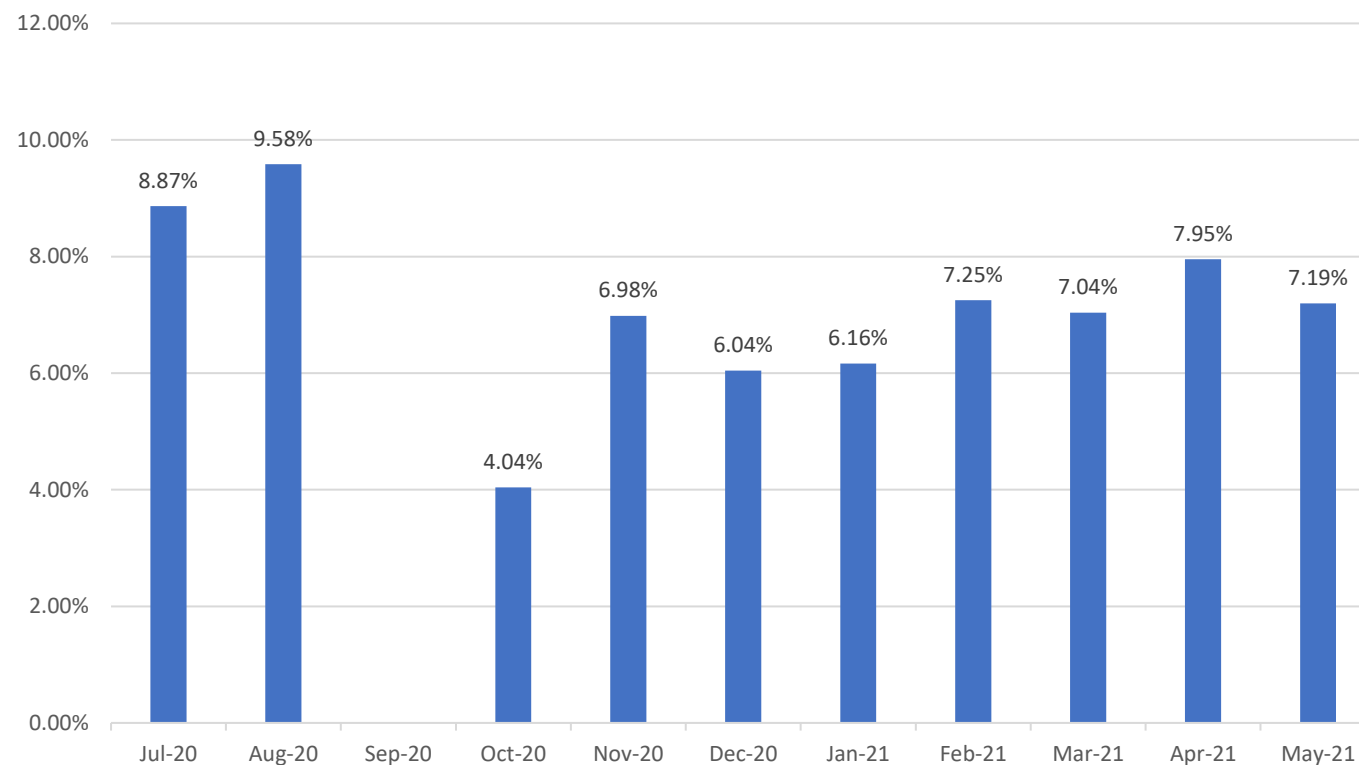
Headlines

Decrease in V85% from 27 to 26mph

Decrease in V50% from 23 to 22mph

Significant increase in 43mph +

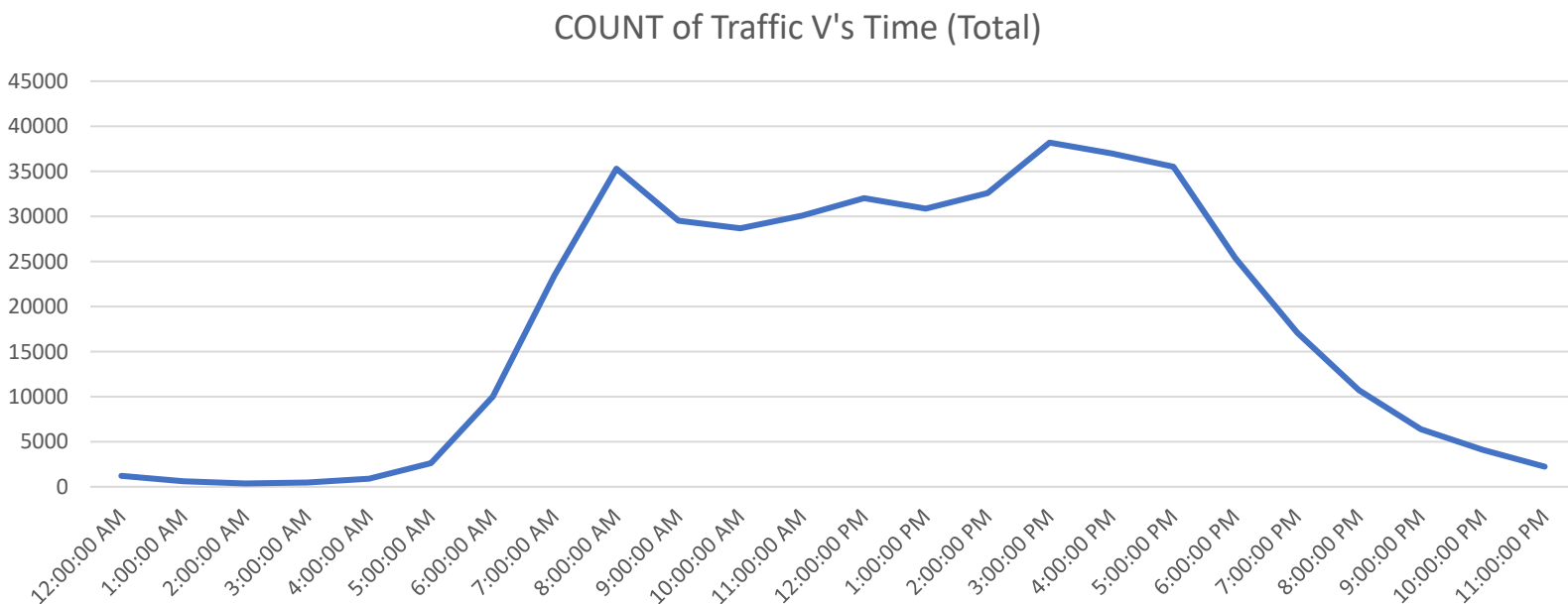
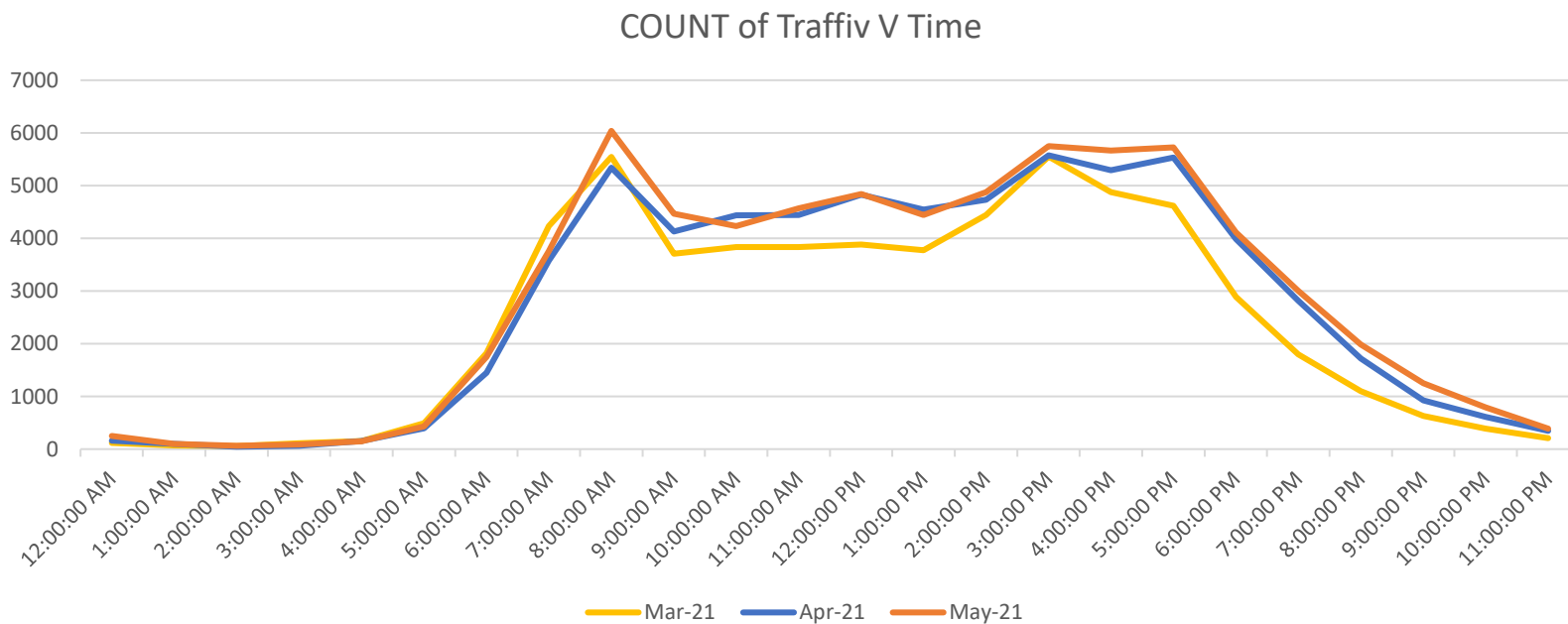
% of Outgoing Traffic speeding



Y&CM PC ElanCity Radar – Traffic Count V Time

Headlines

MoM increase for four months

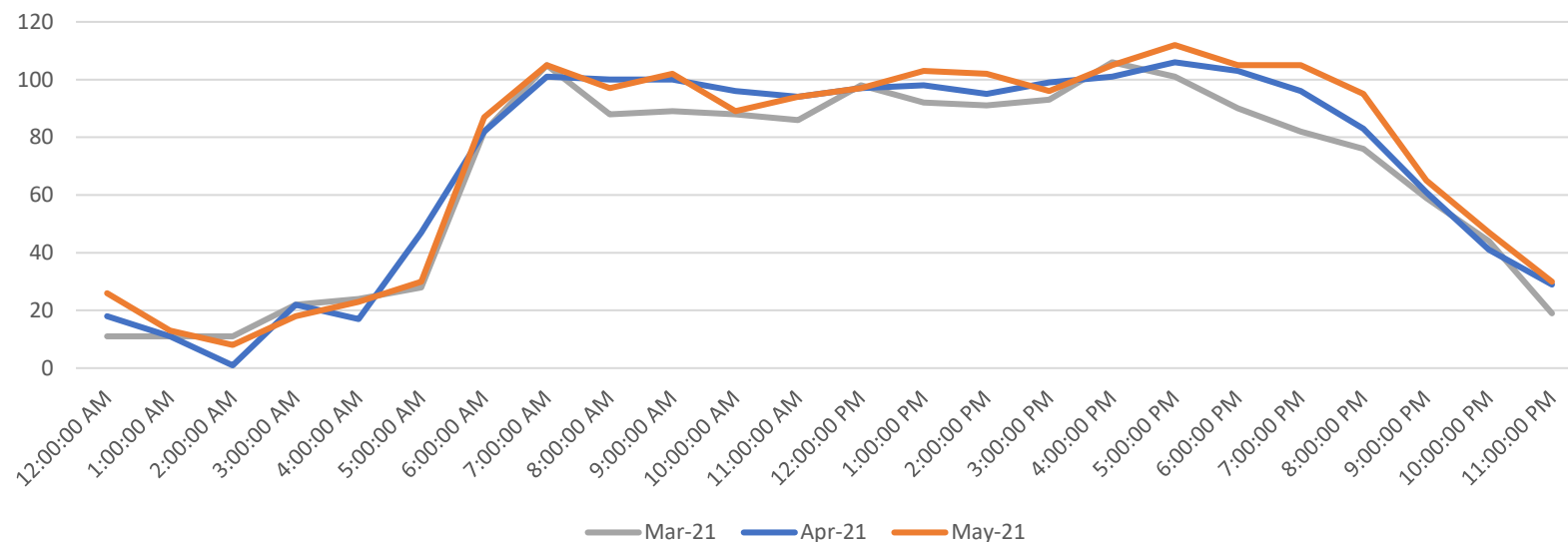


Y&CM PC ElanCity Radar – Speed over 31mph V Time

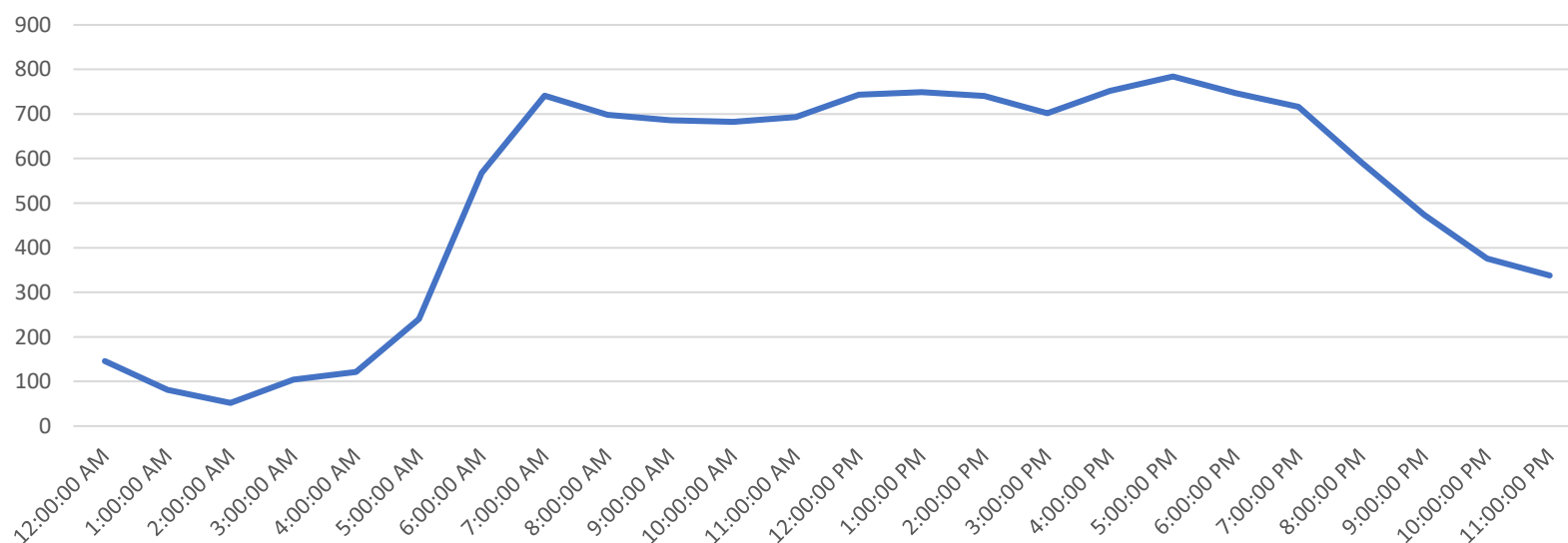
Headlines

Consistently higher than previous months

COUNT of speed over 31 mph v TIME by Month



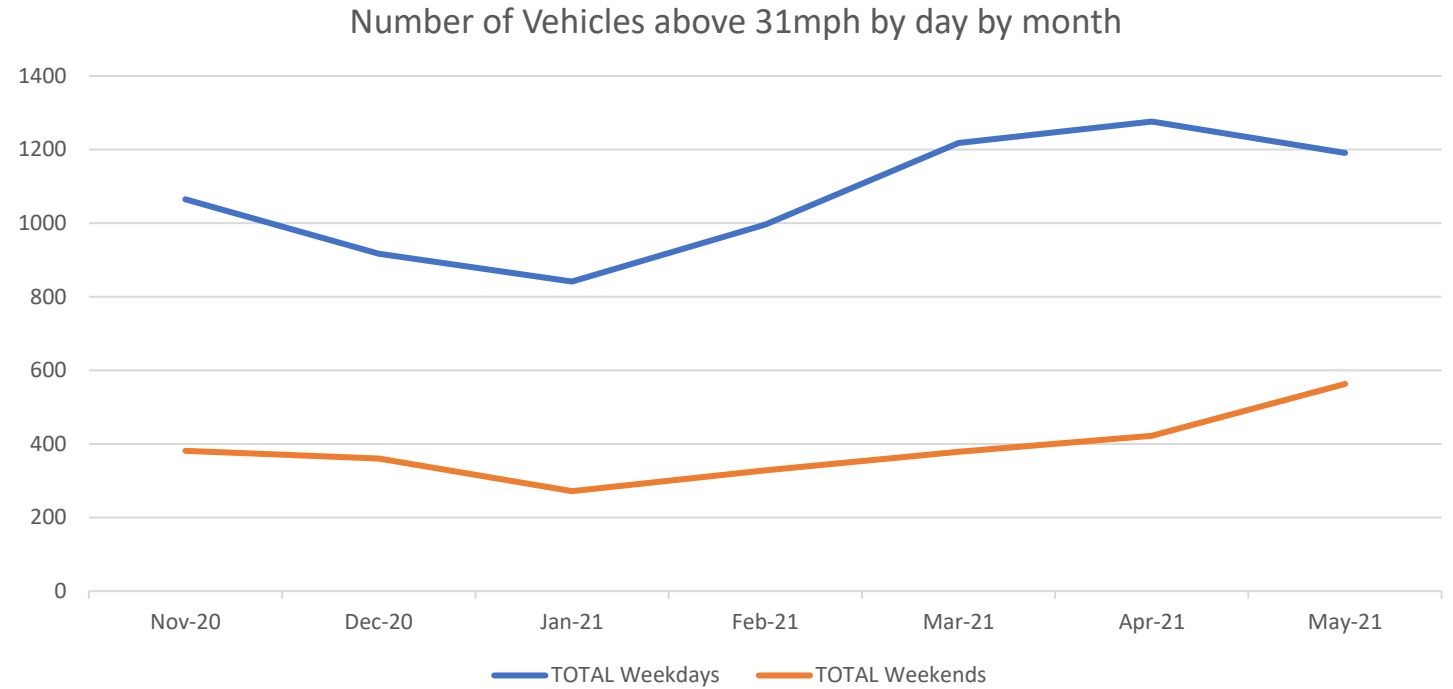
COUNT of Speed above 31mph V's Time (SUM Total)



Y&CM PC ElanCity Radar – Speed over 31mph V Day

Headlines

Consistently higher than previous months



CSW Strategy 2021

- Highways - Is the road classification correct?
- If so, what methods can be used to ensure PRN is correctly used?
- Education -> improved signage for road users
- Education -> for residents
- Engagement -> CSW recruitment
- Engagement -> Improved communication
- Enforcement -> Staffordshire Police
- Enforcement -> CSW
- Enforcement -> Create an extended CSW partnership





Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council
Schedule of Payments - 23 June 2021

Date	Ref/Chq no	Payee	Description	NET	VAT	Payment
25-May-21	066	Eddy's Building Services	Painting - Play Equipment	120.00	-	120.00
03-Jun-21	064	Panda Press	Newsletter printing	397.00	-	397.00
03-Jun-21	065	Trent Grounds Maintenance	Grass cutting contract	1,077.05	215.41	1,292.46
07-Jun-21	067	Trent Grounds Maintenance	Grass cutting contract	708.05	141.61	849.66
23-Jun-21	068	Clerk	Salary			530.40
23-Jun-21	068	Clerk	Expenses	131.56	26.31	157.87
23-Jun-21	069	HMRC	PAYE payment	132.60		132.60
23-Jun-21	070	Eddy's Building Services	Rose garden painting	75.00		75.00
				2,641.26	383.33	3,554.99

Chairperson



Date:

23-Jun-21

YARNFIELD PARISH MEETING**POLICE REPORTS MAY 21**

INCIDENT TYPE		
ASB	11111	5
Administration	1111	4
Burglary		
Criminal damage		
Concern for safety		
Covid breech		
Malicious cams		
Misc	1	1
Other crime		
Suspicious	111	3
Theft	1	1
Transport/RTC	111	3
Vehicle crime		
Total	17	17

No incidents of note reported to us during May.

As covid restrictions are gradually being eased, we've not received any reports of breeches.

No current trends noted, just the usual awareness regarding scams.