

From: Traffic Management TrafficManagement@somerset.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Speed Restrictions and Gutter cleaning North Cadbury
Date: 14 September 2026 at 11:30
To: chrisjose@northcadbury.org.uk

Hello Chris, I have been asked to respond to your enquiry about speeding and speed limits in Yarlington.

You say that Yarlington residents have approached you about what can be done about "alleged" speeding through the village. Do you know if they have any actual evidence to substantiate this?

Yarlington is not subject to any speed restriction and therefore the default National Speed Limit of 60mph applies to all roads in the village, as indeed it does in many rural locations.

While I have no objection in principle to erecting "20 is plenty" signs, I would like to know a little more about the perceived speeding issue. The signs requested are not statutory road signs so would be advisory only and would probably need to be mounted on any existing posts available and be small in diameter, around 300mm which is the size of a statutory repeater sign. They could not be mounted on telegraph poles as these are the property of BT.

You also asked about extending the speed limits in the village but as previously mentioned there is no actual restriction that requires a Traffic Regulation Order. When introducing these we have to comply with DfT rules and certain criteria have to be taken into account such as existing recorded speeds, concentration of residential properties and number of recorded injury collisions to name a few. There is also a requirement that the Parish requesting the introduction of a speed restriction must cover all costs incurred as Somerset Council do not have the budget for this. In practice, this can be anything from around £3000 to £15000 depending on the amount of work required.

Currently, the all day average speeds through the village are 23mph and there have been no recorded injury collisions in the last 5 years, which basically equates to the bare minimum evidence required to justify a speed restriction.

You therefore need to consider that if vehicle speeds are currently that shown above, which is the crucial figure we work from, whether it is worth the financial commitment of actually introducing a signed limit. It must be borne in mind that some drivers will drive at inappropriate speeds for a given location whether a limit is in force or not. Travelling at 60mph along the type of lanes that Yarlington has would be almost impossible but lower speeds probably may seem fast to a pedestrian.

In answer to your other question about moving speed limit signs and roundels, again, this would need to be justified as per the information provided above and would mean an amendment to the current TRO which would incur costs to the Parish. It is not simply a case of physically moving signs.

As previously stated, part of the DfT rules regarding concentration of residential properties states that there must at least 20 houses with direct access onto a road over a minimum of 600m. Therefore we could not justify lengthening the 30 limit to cover one house in these circumstances.

I hope this explains things from our perspective but if you have any further questions please get in touch.

Kind regards,

Andrew Barron