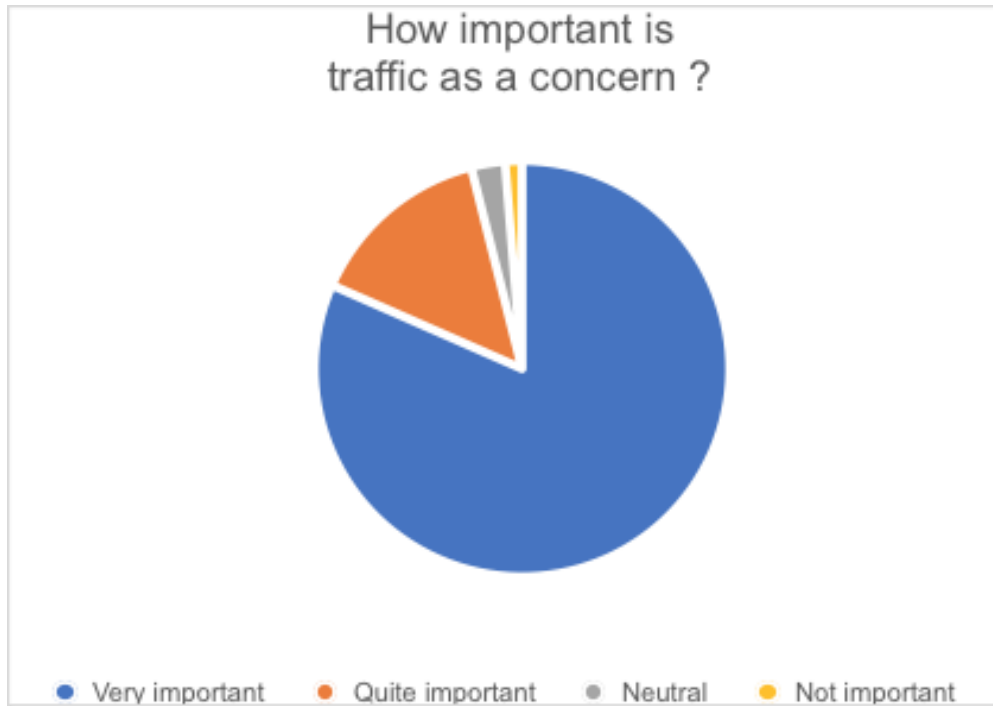


## Walsham le Willows Traffic Calming Questionnaire Summary

Thank you to everybody who took the time to complete the recent survey. It was really good to receive a range of responses and to collate so many different suggestions for traffic calming.

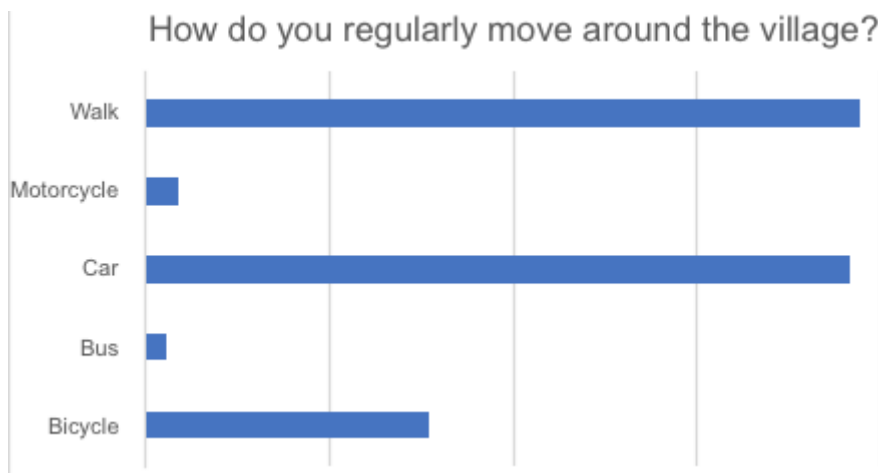
The survey confirmed that traffic volumes and speed and their impact on safety is a cause for concern for many residents with over 80% expressing strong concern.



It also showed a large number of people in favour of further speed restrictions in and around the village with strong support for 20 mph in some areas of the village. There was a large degree of consensus about reducing the speed limit in The Street, around the school on Wattisfield Road and the playground on Townhouse Road.



As expected in a rural location with very limited public transport, most people described themselves as car users. However, a large number of residents also regularly walk in and around the village and some cycle.



### Traffic concerns and improving safety

The main concerns were:

- Traffic approaching the village on Summer Road, Finningham Road, Badwell Road, Wattisfield Road and the Ixworth Road at speeds not appropriate for narrow roads with limited visibility and narrow bridges.

- Traffic not slowing sufficiently within the core village for safe and courteous driving
- Visibility and safety at the crossroads at the church, over the narrow bridges on Finningham Road where traffic crosses into the middle of the carriageway and on the Wattisfield Road by the Acorns.
- The 30mph limit does not extend to the West Street bends which is a residential area of the village and where there have been several accidents.
- Parking which inhibits visibility on bends and junctions, where pedestrians need to cross the road and around the school are all seen as problematic.
- The need for safe pedestrian paths is commented on in several locations particularly along Palmer Street and towards the Sports Club from the village centre.
- Overgrown hedging and vegetation along pavements is mentioned in several specific locations where landowners or householders could cut back hedges and verges to ensure pavements are fully usable by pedestrians.
- The lack of safe pedestrian crossings in some key locations is a concern, for example, on the Finningham Road near the junction with Wattisfield Road where parents and children that walk and cycle to school have to negotiate traffic. The second location is between the two parts of the Sports Club on Summer Road.

Road narrowing, speed bumps and an additional speed monitor for Wattisfield Road are all suggested as measures that could be employed. Policing of existing speed limits and restricting HGVs using the village as a cut through are both suggestions to improve safety and make cycling and walking more pleasant.

The lorry routes and use of bridges with weight limits is already an issue the Parish Council are pressing our local Suffolk County Councillor to investigate with Suffolk Highways Department.

Any changes to speed restrictions are a matter for Suffolk Highways but interestingly, slower speeds on the approaches to the village were suggested multiple times as well as extending the speed restriction to the sharp bends on West Street. Indeed, 20mph is considered to be plenty in parts of the village by the vast majority of respondents.

A range of measures will be considered and the Parish Council will work with the bodies who have responsibility for Highways and walking and cycling routes to make further improvements to safety in and around our village where possible.

To see more information on the survey summary, please visit <https://www.walsham-le-willows.org>