

Email received from a resident regarding road safety concerns on the road through Elcombe.

Dear WPC, I am writing on behalf of all residents of Elcombe, SN4 9QL, having seen your post about Thames Water works on Wharf Road. We wanted to make you aware that have been working with SBC councillors for several years to try to get the speed limit reduced down from 60mph on our lane. As you'll be aware, it's a single-track potholed lane, unlit with no pavements. While it was originally the site of umpteen farms, it's now primarily a residential road, not a 'rural lane'. Thanks to satnav, drivers who are unfamiliar with the hazards routinely speed along, narrowly missing pedestrians, riders, farm vehicles and wheelchair users. Animals are often killed, leaving residents to remove and dispose of their bodies. Swindon BC have simply said to a local councillor they are too understaffed to deal with this and have refused to correspond with our residents which is not really acceptable. While we are sympathetic to the plight of cash-starved local authorities, we are dicing with death daily. The situation is particularly perilous when roads such as Wharf Road are closed (such as right now by Thames Water), subject to temporary traffic lights or when the M4 is hit by delays. The high speed limit means satnav directs unfamiliar and often impatient motorists to Elcombe rather than Hay Lane. Hay lane has two lanes and is 50mph - though we sympathise with their plight too as it should be 30mph at most. Today we have had so many near misses we have been forced to alert Wiltshire Police which is such an unnecessary drain on their resources and could be avoided if SBC simply reduced the speed limit on satnav. If you have any advice or suggestions, we would greatly appreciate any support you might be able to give. With kindest regards,