

ROGATE
PARISH COUNCIL



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via email to: spcc@sussex-pcc.gov.uk
cc: Jo Shiner, Chief Constable Sussex Police

24th August 2020

Dear Katy

Re: Antisocial motorcycling – A272 in Rogate and Operation Downsway

The nuisance and danger caused by excessive noise and speeding of motorcyclists in increasing numbers is a serious issue of concern and a source of intense frustration for all communities along the A272. This is no less the case here in Rogate Parish, the most westerly in the county and at its centre, Rogate village is the last on the A272 in West Sussex before the road crosses the county boundary into Hampshire.

The A272 narrows through the village centre where house frontages, a shop and its Church straddle either side of the road. The noise emanating from motorcycle engines and non-compliant exhausts, especially when ridden in large numbers, disturbs the entire village community plus all the outlying homes as the noise resonates up both sides of the valley.

The Parish Council has recently decided to purchase its own Speed Indicator Device for temporary deployment at 2 locations on the A272 in the village. We know this will not solve the problem but is a measure we can take ourselves (with the necessary permits) that will influence driver/rider behaviour to some degree.

We are aware from viewing your most recent 'Performance and Accountability' meeting on the 31st July that the significance of this issue to residents in West Sussex has been acknowledged and the steps being taken to address the issue. We are encouraged by this but seek your assurance that Operation Downsway will extend to this end of the county. Enforcement activity and associated community engagement will go a long way to easing the frustration felt in the Parish.

Yours sincerely

Max Harwood
Chairman, Rogate Parish Council