

Comment for planning application 20/02126/CLUE

Application Number	20/02126/CLUE
Location	Wroxton Motorcross Track Land Used For Motorcross Stratford Road A422 Wroxton OX15 6HH
Proposal	Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Use for the use of the land for a mixed use of agriculture and as a motorcross track with race meetings for up to 24 days a year (excluding set up, preparation, clear up and private practice sessions)
Case Officer	George Smith
Organisation Name	T Hewlett
Address	Copscap Barn,Eastgate,Hornton,Banbury,OX15 6BT
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>Dear Mr Smith We would like to add our comments to the rapidly growing weight of evidence and complaints against the LDC application at reference. We have read all the supporting documents which we challenge and the public comments which are fully endorse. Our complaint falls into 3 categories. Firstly the totally inaccurate description of the track and the current scale of Motocross events that the applicant provides which mis represents the changes in activity over the last 5 years. Secondly, the misuse of agricultural land and thirdly, the increase of noise that has accompanied the significant expansion of race meetings. Like all other contributors, we were content to accept the level of activity as it was when we moved to the village. But the lack of planning permission and involvement from CDC, by their own admission, has allowed the track organisers and land owner the opportunity to exploit the site, presumably for financial gain at our expense. We have lived in Hornton for over 10 years during which the timescale of motocross events has increased from March until October to February until November. The race meetings have increased in size, scale, length and level of participation. The Banbury Motocross club has grown into a large scale national venue. The evidence confirming the expansion of the track, frequency and scale of events which challenge the applicants claims is overwhelming. The diggers have widened the track to allow an increase in participation during lockdown and the number and size of bikes has increased with expansion of the track and developments in engine capacity and power. I spoke to Mr Pounder and Ms Kerwood at a site review 2 years ago. They chose to ignore growing concern about noise and pollution from the Hornton community and freely admitted they had no means of controlling access and monitoring numbers of vehicles and people attending. Although Covid has reduced the number of meetings this year, the meeting on 22/23 August brought more vehicles than I had seen before at the site and parking overflowed onto neighbouring fields. It is incorrect to state that "..it is primarily agricultural land.." when the expansion of the track now covers such a large area of torn up soil with minimal grazing and the car parks are in constant use with large vehicles in all weathers. As frequent walkers utilising the footpaths in the vicinity we can confirm that there is minimal effort made to use this area for any agricultural purpose. This is another area where the applicants claim contradicts the truth. The noise at the start and during each race extends across Hornton and makes a mockery of living in a conservation area on a race day. Trade winds are south westerly which puts Hornton in direct line with the race track and in summer months is almost always blighted by the noise. The volume has increased both as engine power has increased and also the organisers desire to cram in as many races as possible in a day, ensuring the noise continues unabated. In conclusion, Cherwell District Council, by their negligence have allowed rural sections of North Oxfordshire to be violated by visitors from far afield without taking any action. The facility has become intrusive into our rural life and offers nothing to the local residents who only have the pain of increased traffic, noise and dust pollution to contend with. OCC Highways have recently had to resurface the road from the track to the A422. The applicant's solicitors (Thrings) admitted in November 2018 that the planning laws have been ignored and their only defence in support of the case is that it has gone on for so long without being challenged. What a sad indictment on CDC's ability to control their area of responsibility. The facts are irrefutable. The venue has expanded significantly in the last 5 years; CDC took no action following their investigation of complaints in 2018 and did not inform either the Parish Council or local residents who had complained. Furthermore, they have turned a blind eye to the continued expansion of a controversial activity within their domain. Approving the LDC would render the Council planning department totally impotent and represent a complete abrogation of its</p>

responsibilities to its residents. Current Local Plans and the 2040 Community Involvement Paper place local needs high on the list of priorities and an important issue; let's see theory put into practice. Yours faithfully Mr and Mrs T Hewlett

Received Date

04/09/2020 08:38:50

Attachments