

Rachel Tibbetts

From: George Smith
Sent: 31 March 2021 07:48
To: DC Support
Subject: FW: Application 21/00517/F

From: John Bridgeman [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 March 2021 22:50
To: George Smith <George.Smith@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>
Cc: Chris Woodcock <chrisawoodcock@btinternet.com>; Steve Woodcock <stevejwoodcock@btinternet.com>;
Lindy Bridgeman <lindybridgeman@hotmail.com>
Subject: Application 21/00517/F

Dear Mr Smith,
I have submitted my strong objection to the proposal to establish a Motocross track at Wroxton Heath since it causes a major noise nuisance to my home on the South facing, Northern side of Hornton Village.
My objection is acknowledged here below.

For over 20 years I have been the Chairman of the Audit and Standards Committee of a neighbouring County Council and am well aware of the responsibility of Local Government Officers to demonstrate good governance.
With this in mind could you please let me know the following - I believe it is all information which should be made available to the public.

- Who have been the Lead District Councillors with responsibility for oversight of the activities of Cherwell District Council's (CDC) Planning Department since 2017
- When did CDC's Planning Department first become aware of Hornton Parish Council's concerns over the public nuisance being caused by unapproved and unauthorised Motocross activities at Wroxton Heath causing concerns to the residents of Hornton.
- On which Race Days have CDC officers observed the Wroxton Heath Motocross Track
- On which Race days have CDC officers monitored the noise impact of Wroxton Heath Motocross racing on the residents of Hornton Village - especially on the South facing side of the village
- When was the Lead Councillor with oversight of Planning first made aware of the unapproved Motocross activity and the distress it was causing to residents of Hornton.
- At which Planning Meetings has the illegal Wroxton Motocross Track been considered.
- Has the CDC's Planning Department considered the reputational damage likely to be caused if the Local Authority Ombudsman finds that the Council has failed to enforce the relevant parts of current Planning Legislation including relevant changes introduced since 2017
- Has CDC considered the possibility of Hornton Parish Council being awarded costs for their efforts to bring CDC to account on its failure to enforce Planning Legislation

I would appreciate hearing from you within 60 days of this enquiry.

With thanks

John Bridgeman

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "planning@cherwell-dc.gov.uk" <planning@cherwell-dc.gov.uk>
To: "js_bridgeman@yahoo.co.uk" <js_bridgeman@yahoo.co.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 March 2021, 21:59:20 BST
Subject: Comments acknowledgement for 21/00517/F

Dear John Bridgeman,

Thank you for your email making the following comments on application number 21/00517/F:

"I live at Eastgate House, elevated and on the Northern slope of Hornton village. Our garden faces due South directly towards the illegal Motocross track at Wroxton Heath. Although totally unauthorised this race track has been causing real and increasing distress for some three years. Whenever the track is in operation the noise creates a real nuisance on our property. When the wind is anywhere in the quadrant between South East and South West (most of the Spring and Summer) the noise in our garden is frankly intolerable. I took a number of noise meter readings in 2019 and have records to show sound levels frequently between 65dB and 95dB during race time. This intrusive unpleasantness has led to us leaving home for a few hours on race days on four separate occasions - just to get away from the noise !

To be driven out of one's home by an avoidable public nuisance is, in my view, totally unacceptable and I am really distressed that Cherwell District Council has allowed this unauthorised activity to continue for as long as it has. I know that I am not alone in suffering distress from this public nuisance and would very much appreciate hearing why it is has been that officers from Cherwell District Council have chosen not to visit our North side (and the most affected side) of Hornton Village to hear the dreadful noise during race days for themselves.

I wonder whether this is because the nuisance is caused at weekends and officers don't like intruding on their own weekend leisure time even though ours is being ruined !

I have been making representations to Hornton Parish Council on this matter for over two years and now feel obliged to say that unless I have a satisfactory response from Cherwell District Council's Planning Department I shall have no hesitation in referring what I regard as Cherwell Council's reckless negligence to the Local Authority Ombudsman.

"

Your comments have been forwarded onto the planning officer dealing with this application, who will take your views into consideration when determining this application. We are sorry but the planning officer will not be able to respond directly back to you regarding any questions which you may have raised in your correspondence.

You can view the progress of this application at <https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/Planning/Display/21/00517/F>.

Thank you for taking the time and trouble to let us have your views on this planning application.

Planning Support Team

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