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Mr George Smith MSc
Senior Planning Officer
Planning and Development
Cherwell District Council North Oxfordshire
Bodicote House
Bodicote Banbury
Oxfordshire OX15 4AA

26 March 2021

My Ref: FC/PlanApp:21/00517/F:
Your Ref: 21/00517/F Hedges & Kerwood

Dear Mr Smith,

Creation of a motocross track and soft landscaping scheme and the change of use of agricultural land to hold motocross events including set-up, take down and private practice sessions, with associated camping site, for up to 65 days per year, and agricultural grazing (retrospective).

Further to my letter of objection dated 8 September 2020 (copy enclosed) with regard to an application for a lawful development certificate, I am writing to object to the major part of the current application.

I am a former resident of Stone Edge, Wroxton Heath, which overlooks the field and current (unauthorised) motocross track. I do not object to the request for retrospective permission for agricultural grazing as the field has been used for crop growing and grazing.

I do, however, object strongly to the remainder of the application and I give below my reasons.

The current motocross and parking areas have been extended as can be seen clearly from recent aerial photographs.

The volume of associated vehicles and motocross bikes has increased significantly over the years when I was a resident of Stone Edge. As has the amount of traffic travelling to and from the venue causing considerable disturbance either through Hornton village but mostly along the unnamed single-track road through Wroxton Heath which is besieged by large vehicles and motorhomes that pass over an old railway bridge en route to the track. To access the area, vehicles have to travel along an unmade single track and then park up. The parking area has increased in area to provide for the increase in the number of vehicles. Highways safety is also of concern when the vehicles exit the site onto the Hornton/Wroxton road which has limited vision.

There is no doubt that the noise of the traffic and from motors of the increased number of motocross 'bikes' has escalated significantly. I understand that the noise has been a nuisance to customers at the adjacent 'Indian Queen' restaurant along the A422. I believe that a noise inspection was carried out on a day when the track conditions were not good and there was a reduced number of bikes taking part and associated vehicles. This did not represent a typical race day for a noise audit to offer realistic measurements. When larger meetings take place such as the Bridgestone championship, the noise volume increases further. Their website states:

The Bridgestone British Masters is one of the UKs largest motocross championships consisting of youth, amateur and professional riders. The series takes place over six rounds at six different venues over six different weekends. The venues consist of a collection of some of the best motocross tracks around the country.

Unauthorised road direction signs also appeared on the A422.

I do wonder if there is an increase in air pollution when large meetings are held on this land.

I understand that there have only been a few letters of support for this application. An associated camping site is included in the application's description. I believe that the users come from far and wide and contribute nothing to the local commerce and community, but cause massive disturbance and noise. The proposal to increase the number of days usage up to 65 days per year is intolerable and I believe that this application smacks of commercial greed to the detriment of the locale and residents of Wroxton Heath and neighbouring villages.

One questions how this site was allowed to operate over a number of years without the relevant authorisation? If permission were to be granted this would undoubtedly lead to further expansion, and wreak havoc on the local community. It is not in keeping with the local rural area.

Please note the comments in my letter of 8 September 2020 referring to the *Lawful Development Certificate: 20/0216/CLU* from which part of the description refers to "*with Significant Intensification over Recent Years*" which also apply to this current planning application.

For the above reasons I support the opinions and evidence of Hornton Parish Council and urge the Planning Committee to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely,



Jacqueline B Bock (Mrs)

cc
Wroxton and Balscote Parish Council
Hornton Parish Council
Shenington Parish Council

Enclosure – letter dated 8 September 2020 to be taken into account with the current planning application.