

**From: Felix Francis, The Manor House, The Green, Hornton, OX15 6BZ**

I write in strong objection to the planning proposal for the Wroxton motocross track (21/00517/F).

I have been a resident of Hornton village for the past fourteen years, my home being in the southern part of the village closest to the track (and downwind from it for the prevailing wind). At first the noise nuisance was just about tolerable but, over the four years 2015 - 2019, the number of race days increased dramatically, with many more races per day. With the number and power of the motorbikes in each race also greatly increasing, **the noise became totally unacceptable** such that sitting out in my garden during many summer weekends became impossible. Far from being a venue for local riders, as was originally the intention, the track footprint has been greatly expanded (without any planning consent) and has become a setting for national and international events. On race days, the noise is almost continuous and it has had a **major detrimental effect on my life**. I am a full-time author who needs a quiet environment for my creative writing but I find now that my concentration is seriously disturbed by the noise intrusion for many hours on so many weekends.

In addition to the noise nuisance, the hugely increased traffic flow along the road between the A422 and the track entrance has made the access to Hornton village **seriously more dangerous**. The width and condition of the road is simply not suitable for the large number of vehicles that access the motocross track, many of them towing large caravans. **The junction with the A422 is hazardous** at the best of times due to high speeds and limited visibility. These long vehicles turning on and off the main road are clearly a **serious accident waiting to happen**, to say nothing of the mud brought out onto the road from the motocross site and the amount of litter (mostly take-away food cartons and drink cans) thrown out of these vehicles into the local hedgerows. This area should remain as agricultural land and, positioned as it is close to the Banbury Ornithological Wetlands site at the disused Balscote Quarry, the proposal will have a hugely detrimental effect on the local wildlife.

The number of days that the track was active over the past few years (prior to the Covid restrictions of 2020) has increased far in excess of the 14 that should have been the maximum and the organisers clearly have no intention of conforming to a set limit. Cherwell District Council should have enforced the limit and, just because the council have abdicated that responsibility in the past, is no good reason for them to now increase the restriction for the future. I am further concerned that, with a proposed increase to 65 days, the associated **noise will become totally intolerable for the whole summer**. As has been clearly demonstrated, the organisers of the track have consistently **flouted the regulations** concerning days of use and I fear that they will continue to do so irrespective of the number of days permitted. It therefore seems highly likely that, were this application to be successful, that the track would begin the slide towards operating on a daily basis throughout the year and becoming a permanent nuisance.

Hence, in support of the Hornton Parish Council's stated position, that of environmental advisers, and other Hornton and local village residents, **I vehemently object** to this planning application and request and require either the enforcement of the current 14 day maximum or a closure of the site altogether.

