



The countryside charity
Oxfordshire

Campaigning to protect our rural county

25 May 2021

**Planning application 21/00517/F: Wroxton motocross track
Re. LVIA submissions, on behalf of the applicant, by Steele Landscape Design, posted 010421**

CPRE has rarely seen a case in which the applicants have supplied such a continuous stream of misinformation to bolster their case. For several years they increased the size of the track (illegally, without permission) and increased the number of race meetings (again illegally, without permission). Then, over the last year or so, they have been pretending that they have not made any substantial changes. And now in the LVIA late submissions, which only recently went on the portal, they have produced a set of bogus and inaccurate 'facts' about landscape and environmental issues and noise levels and come up with inadequate remedies as a result.

Hornton Parish Council and many other objectors have demonstrated, scientifically and otherwise, the falsity of these claims. But one doesn't even need science to prove them wrong. Anyone with eyes could see how the track had been dramatically transformed. Anyone who can count would notice how the number of race meetings had been increased. And anyone with ears who stood in the middle of Hornton on a raceday would realize how much the noise level has risen in recent years. It is now simply intolerable, often making the village virtually uninhabitable during race weekends and greatly disturbing the population of four other villages.

No doubt bikers from Brighton and Birmingham enjoy going to the track and roaring around unspoilt countryside. But that should not be a factor in the committee's decision. This is a local issue that should be decided by local government acting in the interests of local people. And in this matter there is really only one thing to be said. On one side there is a rich landowner who cares a lot



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about her income stream and her bank balance but nothing at all about the well-being of her neighbours and this protected rural area. And on the other are the villagers of Hornton, Horley, Wroxton, Alkerton and Shenington, who almost unanimously oppose an application that, if approved, will blight their lives still further. They are therefore trusting the Council which they elected to reject this greedy, selfish and disruptive proposal.

Sir David Gilmour
Chairman CPRE, Cherwell District

