## Comment for planning application 21/00517/F

**Application Number** 21/00517/F

Location

Land Used For Motorcross Stratford Road A422 Wroxton OX15 6HX

**Proposal** 

Creation of a motocross track and soft landscaping scheme and the change of use of agricultural land to hold moto-cross 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)

**Case Officer** 

Gemma Magnuson

**Organisation** 

Name

Chris Brayshay

**Address** 

Eastgate, Hornton, Banbury

**Type of Comment** 

Objection

**Type** 

neighbour

Comments

I am responding, on behalf of various neighbouring residents, to a notification that CDC, rather strangely, sent out to interested parties regarding this application on 16/1/23.

It seems the reason CDC sent out that notification yesterday was that the applicant has changed the visible outline of her land, on a submitted plan, to allow for some tree planting: she submitted a new Landscaping Plan that incorporates the areas for planting. This happened last November but CDC only flagged it to us on 16/1/23.

If one looks closely at the plan her agent submitted you will see that, as part of their required 'habitat enhancement', the applicant is proposing minimal tree planting indicated by the small green blobs. This planting - and the extension of the blue line on the plan to take in the planting - is what we are being asked to comment on, as I understand it. (See attached applicant submission)

While we are very grateful to be notified and consulted, our reaction is that the planting of a few trees around the immediate edge of the circuit will make little or no difference to screening (visual or noise) nor to wildlife habitat. For years to come, these trees will be little more than young whips; that is, if they survive at all, given the previous documented record on multi-faceted neglect of the site environment.

In short, this feels like a sticking plaster measure for a long list of issues, previous alleged infringements and Planning requirements yet to be addressed. These include those still not resolved as raised by the wildlife trust (BBOWT) and the crucial protection of Great Crested Newts in the ponds right in the midst of the track.

Meanwhile, conditions of use for the track are still not clear and, if not carefully stipulated and enforced, these will have the greatest negative impact, socially and environmentally

As of 18/1/23, the track is already marketing itself as hosting a VMX Championship event on 22 and 23 July 2023 - a club from South Wales, once again NOT the 'local' demand the applicant claimed which, sadly, seems to have evaporated. They have also just widened the main gateway to the track site, presumably to allow for larger race entourage vehicles, for the top riders, to enter.

How can these factors be happening, when requirements and conditions are so far from being resolved? We trust CDC will want to address these developments, as they did before in similar circumstances, and stress that no practising, racing or any other use of the circuit or site can occur until this Planning process is complete.

**Received Date** 

18/01/2023 09:34:42

**Attachments** 

The following files have been uploaded:

PL03 - Kerwood-Landscaping - R2 - A1 (3).pdf