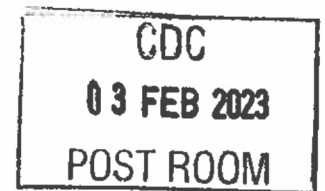


Fern Cottage
5 Kings Road
Bloxham
Oxfordshire
OX15 4QF
Tel: [REDACTED]



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

1 February 2023

My Ref: FC/PlanApp:21/00517/F: 01-2-23
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).

I am responding to a letter dated 16 January 2023 regarding the above. Please note that the comments in my previous letters dated 8 September 2020, 26 March 2021 and 5 April 2021 refer to a similar application (there is no change to the description of the proposal) and still stand. There is nothing that has been changed positively.

My previous objections are still relevant, namely:

Visual amenity – the track is blatantly obvious and not in keeping with the surround area. Theoretically, if this application were to be approved further expansion could be proposed.

Adequacy of parking/turning – aerial photographs show previously the vast number of parked vehicles including large motorhomes.

Highway safety – the increase of vehicles travelling to and from the circuit that reach the field via narrow country roads which contributes to the degeneration of the road surface and travel over the old railway bridge. Unauthorised road direction signs also appeared on the highway.

Traffic generation – Approval of the application could allow for larger and more frequent meetings resulting in a higher density of traffic.

Noise and disturbance – on meeting days the volume of noise has increased considerably and depending on the wind direction can be intolerable.

Density (vehicles) – the number of vehicles had increased considerably including very large vehicles that can cause hazardous situations when exiting the field.

Landscaping – a substantial amount of construction and engineering works has been carried out without the required planning permission.

Road access – for the number of vehicles accessing/exiting the site is not satisfactory.

Nature conservation – It is believed that the noise of the racing and increased vehicle use is having a detrimental effect on the wildlife in the local area which includes Balscote Quarry Reserve.

The site is designated as an agricultural field in a rural setting and only relatively recently has it been used to graze sheep.

The number of meetings had increased and there was a blatant disregard of the number of days under 'permitted use'. The venue and surrounding area are totally unsuitable, and bigger national and international events have been hosted on the site consequently enlarging the existing camping areas. If this application were to be inadvisably approved, would it give carte blanche to the organisers?

As I understand it, if permission for this application were to be granted there would be no limits to its usage unless stringent conditions were to be applied and, more importantly, adhered to. I am concerned that the proposal would almost certainly mean increased usage in terms of the number of race and practice days and lead to an enlargement of the site.

I read in today's press about on-the-spot fines for households flouting air pollution rules for wood-burning stoves. Similarly, there would be considerable air pollution over race weekends from petroleum-based fossil fuels used by the substantial number of vehicles on site.

The terminology 'landscaping' is disingenuous and the suggestions for additional benefits to nature are merely window dressing.

I should be grateful if you would include my objections in the items for consideration and believe that the application should be refused.

Yours sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

Jacqueline B Bock (Mrs)