

Wakefield Park Raceway CCC Minutes

Title	Wakefield Park Raceway Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meeting #01	
Meeting Date	24 August 2020 @ 6pm	
Venue	Goulburn Mulwaree Council Chambers Bourke Street, Goulburn	
Chair	David Johnson	Independent Chairperson*
Meeting Attendees	Jane Reardon Gerard Reardon Richard Cardew John Boston	Community Representative/Resident Community Representative Alternate WPR Nominee WPR Nominee
	Scott Martin Bob Kirk	Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Director Planning & Environment Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Mayor
	Dean Chapman Chris Lewis-Williams	WPR Representative Alternate WPR Representative (by video)
Apologies	Phillip Sykes	Community Representative/Resident
Next Meeting	7 October 2020 @ 4.00pm Goulburn Mulwaree Council 184 Bourke Street, Goulburn NSW	

MEETING WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS - David Johnson

Meeting opened at 6:05pm

David Johnson introduced himself as the Independent Chair of the committee and welcomed everyone.

Each person gave a brief outline of their background as well as their interest and role on the committee.

David spoke on the purpose and role of the committee, and explained how the committee should operate generally in accordance with the NSW Dept of Planning, Industry & Environment's *Community Consultative Committee Guidelines (2019)*, though in this case the functions and operation of the committee will be overseen by Goulburn Mulwaree Council (GMC).

Scott Martin gave a brief outline of Council's responsibilities and expectations regarding the committee, and noted that it's establishment is in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Prevention Notice dated 8 January 2020 which was the agreed outcome of a conciliation conference in the NSW Land & Environment Court in October 2019 between GMC and BAC WMR Holdings Pty Ltd, the operators of Wakefield Park Raceway. Scott noted that he is involved in other CCCs in the Goulburn area, and Council have found them very successful in allowing dialogue and consultation between various operating companies and the local communities.

David explained that he also Chairs four other CCCs in regional NSW and his experience indicates that the committees encourage communication and exchange of information between local residents and communities and the operators of facilities, to the benefit of both.

APOLOGY for the meeting tendered for **Phillip Sykes** (Community Rep)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & CODE OF CONDUCT

David, as the Chair, explained the obligations on all members of CCCs in relation to conduct and behavior. Copies of the *Code of Conduct Agreement* from the DPIE Guidelines were circulated for all members of the CCC to sign. Also, all members were given copies of the *Declaration of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests* to also sign and declare where appropriate.

RACEWAY UPDATE & CURRENT STATUS

Dean Chapman and Chris Lewis-Williams provided a summary of current and up-coming activities at Wakefield Park:

Dean Chapman highlighted that clauses in the Prevention notice had been met which included the appointment of a full time sound officer, additional hardware through the investment in an additional noise meter which was located at 30m from the track edge; Wakefield Park have now organised a CCC, static noise testing of a sample of vehicles at each event now occurs, weather and calendar data is now accessible from Wakefield Park's Website and at the time of booking, competitors and promoters are informed of noise compliance requirements.

The reduction in the number of events mid-week and on weekends has occurred due to the noise restrictions. Some days now have no activity due to WPR not being able to attract certain customers which are able to achieve these sound levels. Effort is being focused on trying to find customers to fill days in which Wakefield can't operate, due to not having that customer base.

A team has been formed to produce the DA for submission to GM Council by the newly agreed date of the 15th September. All indications would see WPR being able to achieve this.

Scott Martin noted that Council has had its own peer review of Renzo Tonin's acoustic report and modelling, carried out by Stephen Cooper, also a prominent and respected acoustic expert.

The Chair noted that the DA and supporting statement of environmental effects and various consultant's reports will be on public exhibition for at least 3 weeks and available for any members of the public to examine and make submissions. Jane asked if the DA exhibit would include the Tonin noise model and noted that residents had not seen it despite requests.

A number of questions were asked by members, particularly relating to noise impacts and the level of compliance with the provisions and noise limits imposed by the Prevention Notice. Dean noted that the managers of the track are adhering to the requirements of the Prevention Notice and applying the noise limit restrictions which are imposed. This includes disallowing any vehicles that don't satisfy the static noise testing prior to using the track, and also removing any vehicle that fails to satisfy the drive-by limit of 95dB(A) at 30m, after one warning.

Jane and Gerard Reardon believe that the noise levels affecting their property are well in excess of the normally acceptable level of background plus 5dB(A) and are not satisfied that enough effort is being applied to reduce noise impacts at their property and others in the area. There was considerable discussion regarding noise emissions from the track and the impacts resulting at neighbours' houses. It was noted by the Chair and agreed that as the Company's principal noise consultant, Renzo Tonin, would be attending the next CCC meeting, any further discussion relating to noise emissions, modelling and impacts should be held over for that meeting.

Dean said the track had to be closed on some weekends with loss of income to the raceway. Jane said that residents had not asked for the raceway to be closed for any period, only that it abides by the noise limits set out in the DA conditions.

Gerard asked if the residents' noise expert be allowed to attend any meeting where Mr Tonin was present. The Chair said this was not appropriate at the next meeting which was for just the committee to hear from Mr Tonin

Dean made the point that he and the track operators are making every effort both to comply with the noise limits and requirements of the Prevention Notice, and to ensure that residents such as the Reardons are not subjected to unacceptable noise impacts at their properties.

Jane asked if residents could have access to the raceway's web-based sound monitoring and offered to provide the web-based sound level data from their noise monitor on their property if WPR are prepared to provide their data to her. Gerard R invited Mayor Bob Kirk to visit their property and listen to the noise from the racetrack.

COMMUNITY COMPLAINTS

Jane noted that she was aware of more than 20 noise complaints this year and said that she had only received one response.

Scott Martin requested that any complaints be phoned to Council's complaints number and the details will then be relayed to WPR. Scott agreed that for future CCC meetings, he will provide a summary of complaints received during the preceding period, and what rectification actions have been made.

Dean noted that in some cases WPR staff members have been abused by complainants (not by persons present today), and that this practice is unfair and complaints should be made via the correct channels.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The Chair noted that there is still a vacancy on the CCC for a community member. Scott M said Council would shortly advertise again for someone who satisfies the criteria dictated in the Prevention Notice – ie. a person who resides within 5 km of the racetrack. The Chair said that 5km was an appropriate criterion.

Dean Chapman noted that WPR have made a number of changes to their operations in recent months (and as per the Prevention Notice) to reduce impacts on the local community, and this includes foregoing 25% of the previously allowed weekend race days, which has resulted in a significant reduction in business revenue. John Boston also noted that his business (which relies on access and availability of the racetrack for his corporate and 'track day' events) has seen a decline in revenue.

Gerard R asked why 'drifting' of race cars had been allowed to re-start at WPR after being previously banned. Chris L-W stated that WPR had been approved to allow 'drifting' by Council.

Gerard claimed that there has been an increasing level of mis-trust between WPR and several members of the local community in recent times, and that this is unfortunate.

It was agreed by all present that WPR's principal acoustic consultant, Renzo Tonin, should be requested to attend the next meeting of the CCC to present and answer questions relating to noise modelling and impacts. It was further agreed that the date of the next meeting should be based on his availability, and that where possible specific questions for him be submitted to the Chair by email, at least a week in advance of that meeting. The meeting is planned for early October during the period when the DA and its supporting reports will be on public exhibition.

MEETING CLOSED

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

NEXT MEETING

To be held on Wednesday 7 October 2020 at 4pm at the Goulburn Mulwaree Council Chambers, 184 Bourke Street, Goulburn.