

Wakefield Park Raceway CCC Minutes

Title	Wakefield Park Raceway Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meeting #02	
Meeting Date	Wednesday, 7 October 2020 @ 4pm	
Venue	Goulburn Mulwaree Council Chambers Bourke Street, Goulburn	
Chair	David Johnson	Independent Chairperson*
Meeting Attendees	<p>Jane Reardon Community Representative/Resident Phil Sykes Community Representative/Resident Angus Gibson Community Representative /Resident</p> <p>Gerard Reardon Community Representative Alternate Randolph Griffiths Community Representative Alternate Richard Cardew WPR Nominee John Boston WPR Nominee</p> <p>Dean Chapman WPR Representative Alternate Chris Lewis-Williams WPR Representative, by Video</p> <p>Scott Martin Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Director Planning & Environment Bob Kirk Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Mayor</p> <p>Renzo Tonin Noise Consultant</p> <p>Lachlan Mansell Minute Taker Candice Webster Minute Taker</p>	
Apologies		

Next Meeting	Thursday, 26 November 2020 @ 4.00pm Goulburn Mulwaree Council 184 Bourke Street, Goulburn NSW
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MEETING WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS - David Johnson

Meeting opened at 4:00pm

All guests briefly introduced themselves to the other attendees. David welcomed Angus Gibson as a new Community Representative and also Randolph Griffiths as an Alternate Community Rep. He also noted that Neil Rae (not in attendance) is now an Alternate Community Rep as well.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & CODE OF CONDUCT

Copies of the *Code of Conduct Agreement* and *Declaration of Interests* forms from the DPIE Guidelines were circulated to members who did not attend the previous meeting, for signing and return to the Chair. No other declarations of interest were made.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The draft minutes from the previous meeting have been revised after feedback received via email and the final version is on the WPR website. No further matters arising.

RACEWAY UPDATE

Chris Lewis-Williams explained that WPR has submitted the development application (DA), which is publicly viewable on the council website. The aim of the DA is to allow continued operation of Wakefield Park so that the Company is able to invest in the venue to secure the future of the racetrack, based on future projections for the motorsport/motoring industries and their requirements as the industries evolve.

Scott Martin said Council has made the decision to leave the DA on exhibition for an extended period, to allow ample time for public comment. The council sent notifications of the DA based on the geographical surrounds of WPR as well as the areas where there have been complaints about the venue.

Scott said Council is investigating the possibility of a public meeting before submissions for the DA close on Thursday, 5 November.

NOISE IMPACT ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION

This report was delivered by noise consultant, Dr Renzo Tonin. Before Dr Tonin delivered his presentation, Chris Lewis-Williams affirmed that Dr Tonin was present at the meeting to clarify how the noise modelling was carried out and the CCC's role was not to debate the validity of the model, but to discuss compliance and communication moving forward.

Dr Tonin's full report is available as an attachment to these minutes. Please [Click Here](#)

Key points were:

- Dr Tonin conducted a range of measurements based on monitoring equipment on site at Wakefield Park (measuring LAeq 15min and LMax levels) and monitoring equipment placed at the locations of various receivers (properties) in the surrounding areas
- Dr Tonin concluded that raw measurements at surrounding locations are not practical for the measurement of noise emission because the readings can be affected and distorted by other sources of noise
- The noise source and operational controls already in place at the venue (and specified in the Schedule 1 Prevention Notice) have been deemed the most effective methods of managing noise emitted from WPR.

Jane Reardon asked three questions of Dr Tonin, which were submitted before the meeting. The questions and responses are below:

Question 1: What are the noise levels at locations R19 and R20 (as shown on the noise impact assessment map) when noise at WPR is 95db, 85db, 83db and 75db?

Answer: The noise impact assessment in the development application as submitted to council is as per the limits imposed in clause 19 of the prevention notice. Noise levels at residential locations at these levels were supplied to council. There is no compliance requirement at receiver points.

Question 2: Should residences at R19 and R20 hear noise inside their houses when these levels are emitted at the circuit?

Answer: Audibility is not a matter of consideration under guidelines from the EPA.

Question 3: Why is there a distinction between 85db and 83db?

Answer: Noise limits under clause 19, schedule 1 (the prevention notice) were prepared by council in conjunction with council's acoustic consultant.

Angus Gibson asked why sound at residents' properties is not considered relevant and why residents can't have access to the specific noise predictions outlined in the model.

Scott Martin answered the question by saying council has worked through the noise model with their own consultant and were able to predict the majority of locations in the surrounding areas of WPR were achieving correct noise levels. Council is unable to share the specific numbers in the model due to copyright and privacy laws.

Dr Tonin added that the information in the noise model was already peer reviewed by council's noise consultant and used to come up with the Schedule 1 Prevention Notice.

Chris Lewis-Williams said it is not an agreed function of the CCC to challenge the validity of Dr Tonin's noise model. He also said (in reference to releasing the specific numbers in the noise model) that efforts were made in the past to be open and transparent with residents, but complaints were still received by council.

Jane Reardon asked the question – if the model is accepted as valid and robust, what are the impacts at my home? Dr Tonin answered by saying the Soundweb (LAeq 15min) reading is accessible to residents through the CCC and residents can then use this information to make their own assessments about impacts at their home.

Angus Gibson said he would like the Soundweb data to be live, so the noise emission from the circuit could be known instantly on any given day.

Randolph Griffiths would like figures from the noise model to be available so he can make informed comments on the DA.

Chris Lewis-Williams asked if it would be helpful to have expected noise levels for upcoming events on the Wakefield Park calendar, and the community representatives agreed that yes, it would be useful.

Gerard Reardon asked if there was a written peer-reviewed report from Council on the noise impact assessment.

Scott Martin answered the question by saying no, there was not a written peer review, but as Council's noise consultant Steve Cooper worked through the data prior to reviewing the model, Council had confidence to take his feedback on board.

David Johnson said he can see the model is necessary because of the complexity of the situation, but can also understand resident concerns about not obtaining a specific number for noise on their properties.

Chris Lewis-Williams said the data provided meets the terms of reference for the CCC, and that the function of the CCC is to assess compliance with the model, not reviewing the model itself.

Bob Kirk said he and other councillors will be faced with objections around noise levels at Wakefield Park when it comes to assessing the DA and that he and other councillors will need to be satisfied that Wakefield Park meets the required numbers on neighbouring properties.

COMMUNITY COMPLAINTS

Jane Reardon asked how have noise complaints been dealt with, how does council deal with the Wakefield Park calendar and sound readings at the raceway and what is the procedure for dealing with complaints.

Scott Martin said there were 14 complaints from 13 July to 14 September. These related to four distinct events:

- 13 July (residents could hear noise inside, complaints from residents up to 10km away)

- 28-29 July (foggy weather)
- 12 August (1 complaint)
- 10-14 September (3 complaints)
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Scott explained that within 24 hours of a complaint, he will reach out to Dean, advise of complaint, provide details, summarise into concise description and seek noise data. Dean will respond with a spreadsheet with data and a summary of noise criteria on that day and a response about cars exceeding noise limits at the venue, which demonstrates Wakefield is policing noise issues on track.

Scott said that to date, there has been alignment between calendar and noise assessed (complaints have come on maximum noise days). Wakefield Park is complying with what was agreed to in the prevention notice. Scott acknowledged Council have fallen short in communicating back to the complainant due to a lag in process.

Dean said measurement of vehicle sounds and competitor education at WPR has never been more rigorous. Quiet days are an opportunity for the circuit to diversify its offering to customers.

Richard Cardew said he knows from experience that sound limits are policed very strictly and that it tends to be about exhaust configuration rather than engine power or speed.

John Boston said Wakefield Park is the most-checked venue for sound in NSW motorsport.

Jane Reardon said enforcement needs to be proactive, not just in response to resident's complaints.

Gerard Reardon asked how noise will be enforced moving forward.

Scott Martin said Council has tried a number of things, there have been false starts and attempts made to regulate noise and there is now a chance to see how the noise prevention notice is working. This will translate into how the DA is assessed, including not only information in front of councillors, but past performance. It is unprecedented to put a DA on public display for six weeks.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Jane Reardon would prefer more frequent meetings. David Johnson noted that under Schedule 1 of the prevention notice, the CCC was to meet every 3 months during the first year.

On the question about releasing specific data from Dr Tonin's noise model – Chris Lewis-Williams will seek legal advice.

Chris asked what data residents would like to see live. Jane Reardon and Angus Gibson would like the LAeq 15min and LAmx readings.

Scott Martin provided an outline of the DA process, including receiving submissions, informing WPR, providing opportunities to modify DA and formally responding to those who have made submissions. It was clarified that the prevention notice applies to the DA currently in place.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 26 November, 4pm. Venue to be confirmed, probably at Council offices again.

Meeting closed at 6:51pm