

**BEFORE THE CHRISTCHURCH REPLACEMENT
DISTRICT PLAN INDEPENDENT HEARINGS PANEL**

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management
Act 1991 and the Canterbury
Earthquake (Christchurch
Replacement District Plan) Order
2014

AND

IN THE MATTER of Chapter 21 (Stage 3) Specific
Purpose Zone (Ruapuna)
Proposal of the proposed
Christchurch Replacement
District Plan

STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF QUIETER PLEASE

(SUBMITTER NO: 3015)

6 MAY 2016

TABLE OF CONTENTS :

1.Introduction 3

2. Background3

3.Objective.....4

4. Alcohol and Motor Racing4

7. Fabrication and repair facilities 5

6 .Policies5

7. Definitions5

Introduction :

Quieter Please (Templeton) Inc was set up in response to escalating noise from Ruapuna in 2003 and because of lack of representation and interest from the local Community Board and Resident's Association . QP has represented around 84 households in the rural area around Ruapuna Racetrack and in the worst affected areas of the Templeton Village since then.

Background :

Plan Change 52 arose because of the increasing adverse effects of noise from Ruapuna Park Motorsport Complex on the surrounding community. Rules established during the Previous District Plan were:

Operational noise levels of 90dB Lmax and 65dBA L10 to apply between the hours of 0900 and 2200 hours on any day of the calendar year, except that:

- for up to 200 days in any calendar year, the permitted levels shall be 95dBA Lmax and 80dBA L10, between the hours of 0900 and 2300
- for up to 15 of those 200 days, these activities shall be permitted up to 2400 hours
- on up to 5 of those 200 days, no Lmax level shall be applied
- All levels are to be applied at the boundaries of the park. At all other times, the levels of the Open Space 3 Zone shall apply.

This regime lead to the council spending \$3.9m back in 2009 buying out just 6 of the 24 worst affected properties , leaving many remaining properties both rural and in Templeton Village still badly affected by noise and so Plan Change 52 was instigated.

Objective:

Quieter Please (QP) contends that provisions from the Environment Court's decision on PC52 cannot and should not be revisited or revised .

If the objective is changed does that then open the door on an appeal against the hearing process for contravening the provisions of the Environment Court ?

QP expects the council to honour clause 4(3) of the Canterbury Earthquake (Christchurch Replacement District Plan) Order 2014 by not revising anything sought during the court process.

The Environment Court has already determined an objective and Quieter Please sees no reason to alter that objective. It includes the use of the park for training and recreational activities.

The objective also states that the adverse noise effects of activities at the Park on the surrounding community and environment are *effectively managed to not increase and, if practicable, are reduced* and QP contends that this is a very important part of the objective.

Consequently Quieter Please is opposed to an increase of activities at the Park, particularly Conference and Function facilities where the hours of operation would extend well beyond the limits placed on the Park by the Environment Court.

Quieter Please also considers that Retail and Cultural facilities will lead to an increase in activity (and therefore noise) and a subsequent increase in traffic on approach roads, specifically Hasketts and Barbers Roads

Alcohol and Motor Racing

Individual members of Quieter Please have, in previous years, opposed the granting of the Liquor License to the Speedway after observing (and reporting) instances of drunken driving after events . Councillors observed at a Council Meeting in 2009 that serving alcohol at a motor racing track "seemed to send a bad message to our youth" and it was noted after a Drifting event that was sponsored by a Vodka company (in 2006 or 2007) that there was an alcohol related accident on Barbers Road involving a spectator leaving the track .

We continue to assert that a motor racing track is not the place to be serving or promoting alcohol , there is no public transport to or from the facility and from our observations 100% of people attending arrive and leave in motor vehicles.

Fabrication and repair facilities

Quieter Please considers the increase in motor racing vehicle fabrication and repair facilities will add to the bucket of noise (testing repaired engines for example) and sees these businesses as more appropriate for a commercial or industrial zone rather than a public reserve

Policies

QP would like the Park recognized in its policy as a Public Reserve with public access .The built form should be consistent with the Reserves Act .

Definitions

QP is opposed to parts of the Car Clubs submission (2358) to amend the definition of “motorized sports facility”. The closing submissions version of the definition is:

Means land, buildings or structures used for motorized sports activity. Includes but is not limited to:

- a. Car, truck, Go-Kart and/or motorbike racing tracks and ancillary buildings
- b. Ancillary mechanical workshops

Specifically, go-karts are not part of the existing use at the Park , there is strong opposition to the addition of Go-Kart racing on this track from local residents and an increase in mechanical workshops as stated previously is more appropriate for a commercial or industrial zone and is not consistent with a public reserve in a rural area . Ruapuna , after all, is not sited on private land, it is a public facility , not a private industrial or business park.

QP is not opposed to unmotorised recreation but believes that activities such as a conference facility and the expansion of mechanical workshops will add to the bucket of noise on what is already a noisy facility.