Nicola Gunn

From: Sent: To: Subject:	wilpshire parish council <wilpshireparishcouncil@gmail.com> 05 June 2022 20:07 Planning; wilpshire parish council Application 3/2022/0414 Carr Hall Whalley Road Wilpshire - Wilpshire Parish Council response to planning Consultation</wilpshireparishcouncil@gmail.com>
Categories:	To Upload

External Email

This email originated from outside Ribble Valley Borough Council. Do **NOT** click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and are sure the content within this email is safe.

Application 3/2022/0414 Carr Hall Whalley Road Wilpshire Wilpshire Parish Council objects to the application for the following reasons:

1-This application will adversely affect the openness and permanence of the Green Belt:

The proposed development is on a steeply sloping site on a prominent escarpment readily visible from the A666.

The applicants own topographical map shows the differences between the lowest and highest points on the site is over 100ft.

The proposed 'Support Building' is 7.4 metres high and will be readily visible from the A666 and will be dominant to users of the Public footpath through the site.

2-Light pollution:

The proposed development will have a need for security and safe access and will significantly extend the area of and increase light pollution. This will be visible from a wide area.

3-Environmental Issues

The potential development is in the Green belt and would adversely affect a wild life corridor and bat colonies.

Noise, light and off road traffic would have a detrimental effect upon the landscape and wildlife.

The site affected is 2.9 Hectares or over 7 acres.

The woodland is known to have bat colonies (see Bat and Bird survey in application 3/2012/0539 at Carr Hall).

It is of concern that the applicant has commenced works, including extensive landscaping works which involved cutting down woodland trees in the Greenbelt without consents. The remaining woodland is now subject to Tree Preservation orders-it is possible the the Go carting activity could cause damage to trees and compact soil around and damage tree roots.

An application for an Agricultural building at Carr Hall 3/2009/0210 was refused since it would represent an unnecessary structure to the detriment to the openness of the countryside and Greenbelt. To provide a safe environment for participants and spectators, as well as walkers, significant construction - in the form of barriers and safety fencing - would have to constructed around the circuit, which will add to the detrimental impact on the Green Belt caused by this proposed development.

This application should be refused for the same reasons.

4-Residential Amenity:

Noise from attending people and the electric vehicles, together with light pollution will have a detrimental effect on local residents opposite and around Carr Hall. Most, if not all, other small scale motorsport venues are either considerably more remote than this site or are in industrial locations, not on Green Belt land, with homes less than two hundred metres away.

5-Employment:

The increase in employment opportunities is limited and would not outweigh the damage to the Greenbelt.

There are 14.33 Hectares of undeveloped employment land in the Ribble Valley. There is no need for the separation of Wilpshire and Langho, provided by the Green belt, to be compromised.

6 - "Motorsport is Dangerous": - these are the triangular warning signs that you see at every circuit, from the smallest to the largest, yet the applicant proposes "using school leavers who do not need qualifications" in safety critical roles.

Wilpshire Parish Council is well placed to comment on this, with one councillor who organises an annual car club track day, who has also been involved with safety testing, including Electric Vehicles (EVs), with Thatcham Research and What Car magazine.

With regards to safety concerns, he said "having had a similar number of motor vehicles, with drivers of differing capability, running around a purpose-built circuit, the marshals supervising the participants are essential to the safety of everyone involved. These marshals have extensive motorsport experience, prior to training to become qualified marshals. Would you feel happy having this safety critical work carried out by teenagers being paid less than £5 per hour?" This training is readily available from organisations such as Motorsports UK, yet the applicant seems unconcerned with providing a safe, professionally manged environment for their paying participants.

Whilst taking about safety of this activity, the driving characteristics of EVs versus their internal combustion counterparts is also a serious concern. The "off the lights"

performance of most EVs is, no pun intended, electrifying and even an experienced rider or driver can be caught off guard by this rate of acceleration. Will inexperienced supervisors be able to communicate this potential danger?

7 - We then need to look at the provision, or rather lack of it, for clients with mobility issues. The motorsport community is heavily engaged with veteran's and disability charities. Participation helps with inclusivity, recovery and rehabilitation, yet this proposal fails to grasp this opportunity and leaves this part of the community excluded. It offers no step-free access to either the training or changing rooms – which are situated on the first floor, so how are people with reduced physical abilities going to be included? Continuing with the concerns over access for all, there is also only provision for one accessible parking space, which seems to be far too little for such a venture.

8 - Considering that this is an "Electric Motorsport" venue, promoting the benefits of electric traction and as central government encourages greater use of green transport, the provision of only two charging points for visiting vehicles seems to be far from practical.

Kind regards

Lesley Lund Clerk to Wilpshire Parish Council