

9th November 2010

To Golden Bay Community Board and Tasman District Council

We have been asked to table what we would like to have happen at the Harwood Property with regard to the Motocross Track.

1. We would like the motocross activity on the Harwood property to cease immediately. We want the track at the Harwood Property to be closed down. There are alternative tracks in Golden Bay that can be used. It is our understanding that no one has complained about noise from these tracks as they are well away from residential homes.
2. We are not prepared to negotiate times or events as we feel we have compromised our quality of life for the past 5 years. Despite a constant, reasonable plea from residents, TDC have allowed this abuse of our quality of life to continue. The noise is invasive, excessive and a nuisance. It is too close to our homes, it is at the bottom of a limestone hill and the noise is amplified.
3. TDC are duty bound to protect residents from excessive noise under the RMA and the Health Act. This is an abuse of our human rights. TDC have received one letter of support from a local GP to say that his patient is under undue stress as a result of the noise from the track. "The level of 'nuisance' is so extreme that I do not believe Council can continue to ignore its obligations under the Health Act".
4. The voluntary code of practise is unworkable and illegal. If bikes are well away from residential homes it is not required. Noise arising from motocross bikes is noise like any other noise. The rural noise zones are clear and there is nothing stopping TDC from policing motocross noise like any other noise. Who gave instructions to ADT Security not to investigate motocross noise? If the noise from motocross is excessive and a nuisance then compliance officers can exercise the right to issue warnings, fines or remove the bikes – just like every other noise complaint.
5. Recreational Motocross riding is not a productive rural activity nor is it mobile horticultural equipment. It is clear that these bikes are not being used as farm bikes. It is a clear breach of the TRMP to give a noise exemption to motocross bikes which is in place for crop dusting, forestry and other temporary productive rural activities.
6. When disputes arise TDC must play the role of the objective mediator. That is what TDC staff and councillors are paid to do. They cannot shirk from that responsibility no matter how unpleasant the consequences. Neighbours should not be left to fight among themselves. Councillors and staff cannot sit on their hands and say it is too hard to resolve. The recent acts of vandalism are a direct result of TDC's failure to enforce the noise rules and take on its role of protector. This failure has created a culture of fear and loathing. A perception of bullying and corruption. Residents are afraid to be "caught" complaining about noise, afraid to speak out, afraid to stand up for their right to be protected from excessive, intrusive, nuisance noise.
7. We would like to ensure that everyone in the TDC region is protected from noise regardless of the source of the noise and that this appalling miscarriage of justice does not happen to anyone ever again.

From concerned citizens against excessive noise in Motupipi
(names withheld but available from the Golden Bay Community Board at their discretion).

9 November 2010

Address to newly appointed Community Board

Kia Ora

I'd like to thank the GB Community Board for their sympathy on our issue with excessive noise from a motocross track which is as close as 300 metres from residential homes and is causing undue stress to the people who live there. It was very kind of Carolyn and Karen to accept our invitation to come to one of the homes affected by the noise last weekend during the Top of the South Event. I understand Leigh came up a bit later in the day and Mik has been to another home during such an event in the past. Thanks to Noel and Martine our Golden Bay Ward Tasman District Councillors for organising other Tasman District Councillors from outside of the Bay to come too. Thanks to Councillors Stuart Bryant, ~~Elaine Henry~~, Brian Ensor and Kit Maling who travelled all the way to Golden Bay to meet us and have a look at the site. I thought it was a very calm and friendly meeting and it was very reassuring to the residents that they took time out of their busy weekend to meet them. Its a refreshing start to the newly elected council.

When disputes arise TDC must play the role of the objective mediator. That is what TDC staff and councillors are paid to do. They cannot shirk from that responsibility no matter how unpleasant the consequences. Neighbours should not be left to fight among themselves. Councillors and staff cannot sit on their hands and say that it is too hard to resolve. They are the authority that police noise in our region. The recent acts of vandalism at my home are a direct result of TDC's failure to enforce the noise rules and take on its role of protector. This failure has created a culture of fear and loathing. A perception of bullying and corruption. Residents are afraid of being "caught" complaining about noise, afraid to stand up for their right to be protected from excessive, intrusive, nuisance noise.

I would like to table what we would like to have happen about the track on the Harwood Property Motupipi. Does the Mayor know the date he has organised for a meeting to discuss this with people concerned about noise from the track

Thank you

Shane Harwood
Manager/Organiser for the Motupipi Moto-x Track.
18 Edinburgh Street
Takaka

08 November 2010

Dear TDC,

We have chosen to remain the quiet or silent part of the Moto-x noise.

As we generally laugh off the lies & allegations against us, such as the horrendous noise, suggesting we are always there & commonly there at dinner time etc, etc.

The over whelming majority of residences to our track has once again re-assured me at the 2010 top of South Moto-x Event (held 6th & 7th November) that the noise in question is & has always been people in specific i.e. What John & Paddy call (horrendous) other people literally don't even notice or realise that we are riding. Just rural back ground noise, occasional & intermittent.

Other general residences comments recently have also been of there own upset & frustration, due to the incorrect information printed, i.e. If the fire brigade had information like 200mtr of hose needed to put out a fire out, they would be a minimum of 6x short of hose. Public are receiving incorrect information all the time.

This farm is actually in Rural Two zoning, not Rural/Residential as previously stated. There is Rural One outside of this then Rural/Residential. So no close neighbours. As a kind & courteous person, I have taken many steps to help our surrounding neighbours & have always been open to conversations, phone calls etc.

In those conversations I have said I will not be there at the track riding bikes on Sundays and I have stuck to that.

Other requests have been, that quad (racing) bikes (seen to be noisier) not use the track. This request has been granted and quad (racing) bikes are no longer aloud on the track. Another request was can the track only be used for the serious race riders/competitors; once again this request has been granted and stuck to. Another request was only use the track when the Harwood Boys are there. I have stuck to this, but in saying that there have been three times when close friends and family have used the track, but this has seized also due to a request from TDC.

I am still getting phone calls from local people wanting to ride our track outside of when we are there, for all sorts of reasons, to improve their skills on a high level track, day off

work, friend over with bikes etc, etc. Even though I have built this facility up to be magnificent & would be dearly love to share it with every one, yet I still stick to my word & have to say no.

I had offered to Paddy a few years ago, if there was a special day on for them on a Saturday at their house to give me a call & let me know & I would do my best not to be at the track on that day.

There is an excess of six other properties we commonly use in Golden Bay regularly, most of these are used a lot more than our Motupipi track, by there riders etc. With several other properties available to be ridden on, but no specific tracks on them.

I have also been informed that John & Paddy did not find the gate or excrement or clean it off. They found out about it later on. With these sorts of lies being published directly accusing TDC & Moto-x riders as the direct blame is hurtful.

But it has started me wondering, just why do I keep bending over backwards to help. When it seems to be making no difference at all, or in fact getting worse.

Steward Borlase was phoned (27/06/10) by Paddy to have a meeting regarding moto-x at Motupipi, so Steward being open minded to both sides of every story, thought what a better time to ring me (Shane) & ask for his side. I explained my views but said I would love to come & discuss any issues in person. Steward thought that would be even better. We all met at 7pm (28/06/10) TDC chambers Takaka. It soon became apparent that Paddy was very unhappy with us there & asked us to leave; she called the meeting for herself & her supporters/colleges with Steward. Not for us to there at all. Steward said we could all be apart of the meeting & to move inside & continue. Paddy & colleges were new very loud & agitated.

I asked if t could get confirmation now, that we could all have a meeting another day soon, and that I would be prepared to go now & let Paddy have her own meeting now. This has still not happened.

Yours Faithfully

Shane Harwood.

Report on Dog Control Signs in Commercial Street and Adjoining Accesses.
Compiled on 1st November, 2010.

Existing Signs: Two signs are located at the southern end of Commercial St., one outside the Roots Bar, one outside Mobil Service Station.

At the Northern end of Commercial St. there is one sign that faces walkers coming from the north. It is situated just into the CDB a few metres south of Reilly St.

Close to the Village Green is a sign facing to the footpath and Green.

Sites for a Further Seven Signs:

* A sign is needed just inside the Reilly St. entrance to the library carpark. There's no appropriately sited post on the left for drivers to read from so the post just inside the carpark which notifies a parking time of 120 minutes is recommended. This could also cover the serving of foods in the market as at present dogs are there also.

Two signs are needed re access from Buxton Lane

*One to be located under the anti-drinking sign on the post in Commercial Street facing the Lane

*The other is needed at the opposite end. Due to lack of a post it will be necessary to obtain permission to from Lifestyle Hire to fasten the sign to the gate post, facing out to Motupipi Street.

Another is needed facing out onto Motupipi St.,

*at the exit of the Waitapu Car park to inform pedestrians,

A sign is needed on Commercial Street

* at the point where pedestrians emerge from between the Anglican Church and Feel Good Foods. The best site is on an existing post for a P60 sign and it should face inward to the pavement and thus the two entry points.

*The northern end of Commercial St. needs a sign opposite the existing one. It needs to be just before the video shop and TDC Service Centre and to face north to inform traffic entering from that direction.

*There needs to be a sign at the main entrance to the Info Centre carpark, placed on the post under the international toilet notice at the southern car entry point and to face the same direction which is south.