

Ruapuna Community Liaison Committee Media Release

May 2023

The Ruapuna Community Liaison Committee held its quarterly meeting on Tuesday evening, 16 May 2023. The committee is provided for in the Christchurch City District Plan to allow local residents and the Canterbury Car and Speedway Clubs to work together to monitor noise from Ruapuna, ensure compliance with District Plan provisions and proactively minimise its effects.

The committee is made up of three resident's representatives, John Cunningham and Tracey Riley (Templeton Residents Association), Warwick Wright (local resident), Mark Wederell and Chris Protheroe (Canterbury Car Club), John Mitchell (Speedway), Henk Buunk (from the Waipuna Halswell-Hornby-Riccarton Community Board as the representative for the Christchurch City Council) and Laurie McCallum (Independent Chair).

The Car Club and Speedway reported on their activities. Chris Protheroe for the Car Club reported that the track had remained very busy. There were a series of weekend events including BEARS Sound of Thunder, Chrome Expression Session, CAMS Motorcycling, Christchurch Trackdays, Motorcycling Canterbury x3, Super Weekend of Motorsport, Pegasus Bay Drags, GTR Festival, Drift South, Autocross. A typical weekday activity at Ruapuna is road car driver training, road motorcycle training, race vehicle test days and V8 Superdrive (where the customer gets to drive a V8). Ornsby Motorcycle Training now have a sealed area by the front gate for their learner course (road bikes at very low speeds).

There have been no noise complaints.

The Speedway reported on their thirteen meetings and two practice days since October 2022. One event was rained out. On other events, midget cars came from all over New Zealand to compete. Three cars at events were found to be infringing the noise provisions for individual cars and were allowed back on the track when modified to race under 95 dba.

The programme for both the Speedway and Car Club can be found on the websites for the Ruapuna Speedway and Ruapuna Raceway.

<https://www.ruapunaspeedway.co.nz/>

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In terms of noise initiatives, the Car Club's tree planting proposal is the only one currently underway. The Christchurch City Council have given the club two hundred trees and shrubs which are to be planted out. It is acknowledged that any noise attenuation from the planting will be minor and its main purpose is beautification and carbon reduction.

The committee had previously discussed fireworks at the Speedway and the need to implement a proactive warning notice to neighbours and landowners who may be disturbed or have animals (e.g., horses) disturbed by such activity. An email reminders list is in place to better ensure neighbours are aware of the fireworks evening.

The committee will next meet on Tuesday, 15 August 2023 at 7.00pm but will be in contact by email and phone. Any member may raise matters for discussion and act as a conduit for matters from the wider community.

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