

Ruapuna Community Liaison Committee Media Release

November 2016

The Ruapuna Community Liaison Committee (CLC) held its first meeting on Monday evening, 31 October 2016. The committee is provided for in the new Christchurch City District Plan with the aim of allowing local residents and the Ruapuna 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 representatives, Peter Peterson and Gary Kilday (Templeton Residents Association), Sara Harnett (Quieter Please), Mark Wederell and Keith Cowan (Canterbury Car Club), John Mitchell (Speedway), Jimmy Chen (Christchurch City Council) and Laurie McCallum (Independent Chair).

The committee determined to meet at least quarterly (it must hold four meetings per year) and more frequently if required. It agreed to adopt a Closed Meeting format, primarily due to privacy concerns but would review this if a need for wider public involvement became necessary.

The need for media releases and access by the public to information on Ruapuna was discussed. The Canterbury Car Club website www.canterburycarclub.co.nz contains the full activity calendar and the Noise Management Plans for each club are to be uploaded. Noise logger access is also available to the public at <http://noiseandweather.co.nz/site.view.82.html> Password = race. A summary of the meetings is to be provided by the Chairperson and to be posted on the Car Club website and sent to the Templeton Residents Newsletter. All contact with the media is to be through the Chairperson.

The two Noise Management Plans required by the District Plan were discussed. They have both been certified and are now operative. They both seek to proactively define how activities at Ruapuna will comply with the noise requirements. Being proactive, means for example, not booking activities or vehicles which will not meet the noise requirements. An issue raised was the need for noise complaints by the public which were lodged with Christchurch City Council, including its After Hours Service, to be immediately forwarded to the Clubs to allow them to respond. The procedure is to be confirmed with CCC staff.

The Car Club provided a report on noise recorded for July, August and September 2016. It was used to manage the number of days permitted for each type of activity eg. race cars or road vehicles. Their goal is to use more lower noise category days rather than use up all the high noise days permitted.

Progress on noise initiatives was outlined by the two clubs. The Speedway has installed a new speaker system with smaller directional speakers at a lower level while the Car Club are doing the same thing with it being two thirds complete. These systems send the announcements or music more directly to the intended audience at Ruapuna rather than beyond. The Car Club also participated in a recent local display day at Templeton.

The committee will meet again next February 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.

Laurie McCallum
Independent Chairperson

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