

CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL

Report to:- **Development Control Committee**

Date of Meeting:- 04 October 2002

Agenda Item No:-

A2

Public

Operational

Delegated: Yes

Accompanying Comments and Statements

Required

Included

Environmental Impact Statement:

No

No

Corporate Management Team Comments:

No

No

City Treasurers Comments:

No

No

City Solicitor & Secretary Comments:

No

No

Head of Personnel Services Comments:

No

No

Title:-

**POST DECISION MINOR AMENDMENT RE 00/0510 TO
REMOVE 2NO. RESTRICTIVE BARRIERS FROM THE
CIRCUIT AT DOWN-A-GATE, WARWICK BRIDGE**

Report of:-

Director of Environment and Development

Report reference:-

EN.109/02

Summary:-

This report details a request for a minor amendment to the above application which was approved by Members on 27 October 2000.

Recommendation:-

It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report and approve the amendment.

Mike Battersby

Director Environment and Development

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report relates to the model car racing circuit at Down-a-Gate, Warwick Bridge, which is managed by the Carlisle Radio Model Car Club. The site is located on a triangular piece, measuring approximately 100metres by 90 metres by 70 metres. There are a number of mature trees in the southern corner of the site and hedges separate the site from the boundaries, with the roads to the east and west of the site. Residential properties exist to the east of the site, with Warwick Bridge Primary School located to the north east of the site.

2.0 Planning History

- 2.1 On 15 June 2000 a planning application was submitted for the formation of model car racing circuit, including the siting of a rostrum race control room on the site. The application was made by Carlisle Radio Model Car Club. The Club races one tenth scale model cars which are powered by electric motors. On 27 October 2000 full planning permission was granted for this application.

3.0 Proposed Amendment

- 3.1 The applicants are now seeking a variation to a condition attached to the original approval. Condition number 8 of Planning Approval 2000/0510 states:

"Outside the authorised hours and days of operation 2 no. barriers will be erected across the track, details of which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before the use commences."

The reason given states:

"To prevent any unauthorised uses of the site."

- 3.2 The Down-a-Gate Management Committee, in conjunction with the applicants, are of the opinion that the facility is under used due to the planning condition and would like to extend the availability of the circuit to members of the community outside the hours of the planning permission. This would initially be a temporary arrangement for a six month period so that the Committee could monitor the situation.

If successful during this period the applicant's intend to formally apply for planning permission to vary the condition.

- 3.3 A letter has been submitted on behalf of the Committee which details the circumstances behind this amendment, a copy of the letter is reproduced following this Report. This letter emphasises the perceived benefits to the wider community and cites and examples of difficulties that the planning condition has had on the inability of young persons to race on the circuit.

4.0 Consultation Response

- 4.1 All individuals and consultees who were notified of the original planning application have received correspondence seeking views on the current proposal. At the time of writing this report the Highway Authority responded with 'no objection'.

5.0 Planning Issues

- 5.1 Concerns were raised in correspondence received when the planning application was being considered. The objectors referred to the vandalism in the area and that this problem would be exacerbated because the circuit would provide further area for youths to congregate.
- 5.2 If this were the case, the Management Committee themselves would not be promoting the use of the facilities outside the Club's scheduled meeting dates. Furthermore, it is not considered likely that the removal of the barriers and the use of the facilities, under the terms being proposed, will lead to an increase in vandalism. If these problems do occur, it is considered that they would do so whether the availability of the circuit was restricted or otherwise.

6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 In conclusion, the Club is seeking the use of the racing circuit outside of the permitted days so that other Members of the community can benefit from the facilities. This is proposed to initially be a temporary period of six months so that the Committee can monitor the situation. It is considered that the extension of the use of the facilities would not be detrimental to the amenity of the residents of the area.

7.0 Recommendation

- 7.1 It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report and approve the amendment.

M Battersby
Director Environment and Development

Contact Officer: Richard Maunsell

Ext:7174

Down-a-gate Management committee
Warwick Farm House
Warwick on Eden
Carlisle
CA4 8PB
Date 7 August 2002

14 AUG 2002	
RECEIVED	<i>[Signature]</i>
SCANNED	
PASSED TO	AMT
ACTION	

Dear Mr Taylor

I am writing to you as Chairman of the Down-a-gate management committee. Mr Ian Willacy representing the community centre, visited the planning department on 25/07/2002 and spoke with you about the present planning restrictions imposed on the Model Racing car circuit situated on the Community centre playing fields at Warwick bridge. The management committee would like to apply for a temporary relaxation of the planning restriction that enforces the fitment of two gates when the Model car track is not in use by Carlisle Radio Model Car Club.

The Down-a-gate Committee would like to apply for a temporary amendment to point 4 and point 8 of the planning restrictions for a 6-month trial period. That the barriers to be removed and the local community allowed to use the circuit on a casual basis through the week/weekend. There will be no organised race meetings or P.A. system in use. The management committee would monitor the tracks use to see if there was any inconvenience caused to the local residents.

We would like to be able offer this facility to the local community to use, and to encourage enthusiasts that have an electric model car, to use them on the circuit, rather than out on the busy streets. At present unless they turn up to the meetings organised by the model car club they can not use this facility without breaking planning regulations.

As an example the other Sunday, a mother turned up at 4.30 pm after the car club had finished, with her 2 young boys and 2 toy electric cars. It had to be explained that unfortunately they could not play on the purpose built track, a safe facility, but could play in the car park, or on the road beside the track.

I hope that the planning board could look on this favourably and allow the community to use this facility freely, which was paid for by local council grant money.

Yours sincerely



Chris Routledge (Chairman)