Christchurch Gun Club

Dear Mr Gordon

Further to our conversation this morning.

The proposed building will be almost exactly the same size as the structure it is replacing. There will not be an increase of 30% in the facility.

The number of club Members is capped and this restriction will remain in place. We are aware of the concerns of local residents concerning the numbers of people attending the range.

The proposed replacement will not affect the numbers attending only the quality of the facilities for both able bodied and disabled members. This will also mean there will be no increase in the number of people using the approach roads and lanes.

The club is also aware of concerns over driver behaviour on the approach lanes. Members are regularly warned regarding their speed and driving. The club at its own expense has provided a number of signs on approach lanes warning drivers to exercise care and reduce speed, also any Member caught speeding on the lane is subject to disciplinary proceedings.

The club is also keenly aware of the concerns of local people regarding noise and the club is trying to reduce the noise footprint. The new facilities will provide enclosed firing points with lining on internal walls and roof. This should help to deaden the noise compared to the present structures design which if anything tends to amplify noise. The club is encouraging the use of sound moderators (silencers) by all members.

In the past the open design of the present firing point and its remote location has attracted antisocial behaviour. The present firing point shelter provides a focal point for local drug and alcohol abuse.

The club has on several occasions brought this activity to the attention of the local police, this is a matter of record.

Club members have in the past, under professional supervision, removed needles and syringes from the range as well as clearing alcohol containers, once again the local police have been kept aware of these problems.

The new design is fully enclosed and will not afford any protection from the elements and thus discourage this activity.

In conclusion I would point out the club is trying to update existing facilities not encourage new members or expand the present facilities.

Yours Sincerely,

Secretary, Christchurch Gun Club
On Behalf of The Committee