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Lakeside Classic cancelled - Future of Lakeside looking grim

In October last year we were forced to stop racing at Lakeside because of the ~\$40,000 in fines QR is still facing. On 1<sup>st</sup> November Minister Cameron Dick sent a letter to the Moreton Bay Regional Council (MBRC) making it clear that the State government has defined Lakeside as a special place that needs to be able to continue bringing recreational activities to thousands of people every year. What's happened since then?

Since then QR has met with and put a series of proposals to the MBRC as to how the situation could be resolved. One of those proposals was to ask for the re-instatement of the moratorium granted by MBRC so we could enjoy special events like the Lakeside Classic. The MBRC cancelled that moratorium without any discussion with QR. Now, the MBRC have refused to grant even that temporary relief for this year's Classic and brought in yet more consultants to tell them what to do. No dates for completion of the "investigation" have been published. Everyone who deals with government knows this is a bureaucratic delaying tactic - hoping that QR, and you, will give up on Lakeside.

It is now obvious that Lakeside is getting no support from Cr Denise Sims; that her position is at best neutral as she declared it to be in December last year - and her attitude is unlikely to change without a big show of how important Lakeside is to so many of us. It may help her if we make sure that every Councilor knows how important Lakeside is to people in the MBRC region and their children - parents too, come to think of it.

AND, the problem of one or two selfish whingers denying the rest of us the right to leisure and life free from vexatious complainants goes deeper than you can imagine. Yesterday's Gold Coast Bulletin had an article about a lady on an acreage being told by the Gold Coast Council that a neighbour had complained about her cows mooing at 9:30am and she has to fix it! That anybody in that Council would even consider accepting the complaint, let alone spending rate-payers money taking action over it, has left me...

In 2014 over 18,000 people signed a petition that would protect Lakeside from this type of harassment. That petition was fundamentally ignored by the then Campbell Newman government. According to the Ernst Young report from that year, motorsport employed 3251 people in SE Qld and contributed over \$756 million dollars to its economy. Just what does it take to get foundation assets of an industry of that magnitude protected from these self-centered individuals? They would probably complain about cows mooing too.

To all of you that want Lakeside to have a future; and gave it so much support by sending thousands of eMails etc to the Moreton Bay Regional Council last year - please do it again, but this time to all the Councilors and Politicians you can manage; and any of the MBRC bureaucrats that you know of, maybe then 3251 jobs might get the support given to a black throated finch. Who knows? Maybe the State Government might legislate some protection from this drain on the public purse and our pursuit of happiness. As we used to say, "Fair go mate!".