

Attention Mr S J Normington
Economy Director for Development
Wigan Council
Town Hall
Library Street
Wigan
WN11N

07/06/2014

Planning Application Reference A/14/79296 Lancashire Aero Club

Dear Sir

I write on behalf of our members to object to the above application for an Airfield at Kenyon Hall Farm, Winwick Lane.

In October 2011 Cliff Mort, Chairman of Lancashire Aero Club visited meetings at both Lane Head South Residents Group and LENDF to outline the club's activities and future plans. A vote was taken at both groups and no one wanted to see any development.

Lancashire Aero Club has been using this site for about three years for 28 days each year. This has caused complaints from local residents about low flying and noise pollution.

In June 2012 a light aircraft crashed during take-off finishing on its nose in hedges next to a public footpath on Highfield Moss. There are no emergency facilities at this Airfield nor are any planned. If this plane had caught fire it would have destroyed the Site of Special Scientific Interest, its rare birds and plant life.

Lancashire Wild life Trust will be submitting an objection outlining the dangers to the Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Even though the application is for only five aircraft being stationed on site the one that crashed had taken off and landed at least five times during the afternoon. With this in mind just five aircraft could result in 9,000 movements in a year.

However, Lancashire Aero Club has around 50 members and the building of the control room that will become a club house will attract not only them but also casual aircraft from all over the UK.

This Club is currently flying out of Barton Airfield and have done so for many years. Barton Airfield is fully equipped with all emergency, maintenance, and fuelling

facilities. None of these are mentioned in the above application, so they would still have to fly in and out of Barton to fuel.

Barton is about 8 miles away from Kenyon so there is absolutely no reason to destroy Green Belt quality agricultural land and endanger Highfield Moss SSSI.

The pleasure of a few even flying 28 days a year has caused aggravation to many of our residents due to noise and low flying.

It is difficult to know whether pilots are obeying correct height and flight path instructions when observing them from the ground. They are instructed to be over 500 feet high when passing over houses as well as the Manchester to Liverpool railway line. However, to do this means a quite dangerous manoeuvre when landing that pilots have to be specially trained for.

We suspect that due to the danger in landing, pilots are not flying at the correct height when crossing the railway lines.

The entrance to the ever growing business at Kenyon Hall Farm is on Winwick Lane and would be only yards from the proposed Airfield entrance.

A new access road onto Winwick Lane is not acceptable as this is a fast and very well used road serving the motorway network. There have already been several accidents along this stretch since the Farm Shop opened, one was a fatality.

Apart from aggravating local residents this application is of no commercial value, will bring no jobs to the area, will destroy Green Belt land and endanger the SSSI.

We ask that you reject it.

Ed Thwaite

Chairman