

Attention Karl Battersby
Director of Economy and Regeneration
Wigan Council
Town Hall
Library St
Wigan
WN11N

Cc Kevin Foster Planning.

04/03/2016

Planning Application Reference A/16/81895/Major Lancashire Aero Club.

Sir

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

Both Lane Head South Residents Group and LENDF have received a detailed presentation from Cliff Mort, Chairman of Lancashire Aero Club about their ambitions to have a fully operational airfield at Kenyon Hall Farm. A vote was taken at both groups and no one supported this development.

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

June 2012 a light aircraft crashed on 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. I attach photographs and accident report.

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 a small number of aircraft using the site, the one that crashed had taken off and landed at least five times during the afternoon. With this in mind, just five aircraft alone could result in 9,000 movements in a year.

However, Lancashire Aero Club has around 50 members and although this application is just for 365 days flying with access road and parking, it would soon be followed with a further application for hangar and club room to fulfil their ambitions.

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 available at Kenyon Hall Farm, 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 many of our residents' aggravation with noise and low flying. They don't keep to the height and flight path stated and no one has any control of these planes once their wheels leave the ground.

It is difficult to know whether pilots are obeying correct height and flight path instructions when observing from the ground. They are instructed to be over 500 feet high when passing over houses and 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 this road 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 Greenbelt land and endanger the SSSI.

We ask that you reject it.

Ed Thwaite

Chairman