



Protesters gather in Newton Road, Lowton

IPQ21712

Light aircraft crash sparks concerns

By Brian Gomm

LOWTON residents are concerned after a light aircraft crashed on to a footpath.

They are campaigning to prevent the use of land as an airstrip, accessible from Winwick Lane.

"This airstrip lies next to Highfield Moss, a precious local amenity enjoyed by walkers and birdwatchers," said campaigner Jack Moulden of Newton Road.

"The Moss is a site of Specific Scientific Interest.

"On June 30 a small plane crashed through bushes and landed in a ditch by the side of the Moss.

"The Lancashire Aero Club's airstrip is bordered by public footpaths and a sign advises walkers to remain on the footpath at all times.

"This would seem to be the worst place given that a plane landed right on it.

"The safety issue was raised last year when a representative

of the club met with opposition at local meetings, when he said the club hoped to seek planning permission for a permanent home there.

"The Liverpool-Manchester rail line passes nearby, and there are houses little more than half a mile away. We don't think this is the right location for an airfield."

The *Journal* requested a comment from the Lancashire Aero Club, but it had not responded by the time the paper went to press.

