

Headcorn Aerodrome
Kent TN27 9HX

01622 890 226

**Consultative Committee Agenda
Tuesday 4th October 2022 at 2.30 pm
Wings Bar & Restaurant
Headcorn Aerodrome**

Jamie Freeman	Chairman
Brian Bristow	Vice Chairman and Smarden PC
Terry Hodges	Insurance/Museum
Chris Yates	Headcorn Special Events Ltd
Ziggy Trzebinski	Maidstone Borough Council
Joshua Roberts	Aero Legends Ltd
Linda Thorogood	Vice Chair Headcorn Parish Council
Stefan Christodoulou	Clerk Headcorn Parish Council
Jo Mitchell	New Assistant Clerk Headcorn Parish Council
Sue Line	Secretary

1 Apologies for Absence

Lester Gosbee	Frittenden Parish Council
James Tuke	Frittenden Parish Council
Ken Mulholland	Ashford Borough Council
John Perry	Staplehurst Parish Council
Martin Round	Maidstone Borough Council
Gerald Hodges	Thurston Helicopters.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read, accepted and signed.

3 Matters arising from the Minutes

Nothing raised.

4 Planning & Events

The Emergency Services Show had been held and was discussed. Specifically the fire engines which were giving rides to children and were using sirens. It was estimated that about 1,000 children had a ride in a fire engine over the weekend. Unfortunately this resulted in complaints concerning the sirens and they were asked to turn the noise down. Going forward, the organisers, Headcorn Special Events

Ltd, were planning to hold the event next year (2023) aiming to produce less noise and incurring less annoyance for the neighbours.

Noise had also been raised reference to Combined Ops and it was mentioned by Headcorn Special Events that there might be a possibility of putting this on hold for a while.

Noise was also an issue with the Model Show. There had been some loud fireworks and some residents had seen fit to complain. The question was raised about holding a firework display during very dry weather and when there was a hosepipe ban, but the aerodrome had 4 inches of rain and itself had been flooded so it was felt quite safe. Water for the fire engines was extracted and recycled.

There had been 7 or 8 motorcar events. These had not been heavily published but could have approximately 2,000 attendees and had a good following. Additionally there had been the Armed Forces Show, plus the Battle of Britain and the Emergency Services Show which had about 4 or 5,000 attendees. Similarly there were about 7,000 for the Model Show. It was felt that the average spend of visitors to the area would have been £25 to £50 per head, and that this would have had a significant impact on the local economy. Headcorn Special Events Ltd had identified issues causing complaints and would deal with them going forward.

Ziggy Trzebinski was very supportive and had no issues with the aircraft. Chris Yates said that Headcorn Special Events had not started planning for next year (2023). The Battle of Britain show had been launched. Fireworks and explosions will not happen to the same extent going forward as the Combined Ops Show was also not going forward in its previous form. This was confirmed to the Committee and double checked by Brian Bristow and Ziggy Trzebinski.

There was a discussion about the Emergency Services Show with a view to Headcorn Special Events debriefing and producing a plan for any future show which could be distributed locally so that both local residents plus the Parish Council and Maidstone Borough Council would be aware of what was planned throughout the day. Chris Yates said that all comments would be taken on board and Headcorn Special Events would be mitigating. Ziggy Trzebinski raised the issue of smoke going across the road. Jamie Freeman confirmed that this occurred because the wind was blowing from the north. It was agreed that a better plan would be needed for next year (2023). Jamie Freeman said that one more car show was planned for this year (2022).

5. Correspondence

No Correspondence was put forward.

6. Complaints

Brian Bristow, in his position as a Smarden Parish Councillor and Vice Chairman of HACC, had been approached by Bletchenden residents with a complaint.

Linda Thorogood felt that the residents would not accept that everything was being done by the aerodrome. She would give Jamie Freeman a copy of a noise report after the meeting. Stefan Christodoulou, in his position as Clerk to the Parish Council felt that the Parish Council had done just about everything they could. Brian Bristow discussed turning abeam the church and the Secretary had circulated the diagrammatic map produce by him to the residents. Linda Thorogood reminded the Committee that it was a perception of distance and perspective.

Chris Yates said that he had stood by the road with a Db meter and there was more noise from the road than from the aircraft. Jamie Freeman reminded the Committee that the pilots of e.g. the Spitfires were professional pilots. Linda Thorogood included the parachute plane in that listing. It was felt that some visiting pilots may not be aware of the voluntary noise abatement areas. Informative maps were available and handed out in Air Traffic. There was also a discussion about helicopters. There was a further complaint from Frittenden. Review meeting to be convened.

It was pointed out that the nearest house to the extended centre line is the new one being built for people by a resident of Bletchenden for use as a B&B.

7 Any other business - NONE

8 Date of next meeting

**March 2023. 14th March at 2.30 pm in Wings Bar & Restaurant
Meeting closed at 2.55 pm.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive name that is difficult to decipher.