

Headcorn Aerodrome Consultative Committee

Tuesday 15th October 2019

Briefing Room 2.30 pm

Present: Jamie Freeman Headcorn Aerodrome
 Brian Bristow Smarden Parish Council
 Lester Gosbee Frittenden Parish Council
 John Mather Headcorn Parish Council
 Lyn Selby Headcorn Parish Council
 Linda Thorogood Headcorn Parish Council
 Chris Yates Headcorn Special Events
 John Perry Staplehurst Parish Council
 Dave Evans Headcorn Aerodrome
 David Parker Headcorn Parachute Club
 Ben Perkins Aero Legends
 Gerald Hodges Thurston Helicopters
 Sue Line Secretary

1 Apologies

James Tuke – Thurston Helicopters Ltd

Terry Hodges – Aircraft Owner and Insurance Broker

Martin Round – Maidstone Borough Council

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Previous Meeting were accepted and signed.

3 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

4 Planning & Events

Jamie Freeman reported that all the Events had gone well. The traffic plan meant that there was no congestion, although the numbers were less which helped. Aero Legends had worked towards that end. Lyn Selby asked if all was well with fewer numbers. Chris Yates said that there were 10,000 over a weekend. Lyn Selby confirmed that she had received no complaints.

Chris Yates confirm that a draft schedule had been posted to the Headcorn Events website (headcornevents.co.uk). He confirmed one additional event of a Fire Engine show, previously held at Odiam and now relocating Headcorn. Currently there were 80 fire engines on the schedule. They were raising money for the Fire Fighters' Charity. It was expected to be held on the first weekend in August and would be launched at the Kent Fire & Rescue HQ in Maidstone. No flying was involved and the aerodrome would be operating as normal.

5 Correspondence

Jamie Freeman had been contacted by Mike Nash, Democratic Services Officer at Maidstone Borough Council who had emailed him as he was reviewing Outside Bodies listed in the MBC Constitution. Jamie had called and spoken to Mike Nash. The subject involved the possible expansion of eligible members to HACC bearing in mind that there were over 50 Councillors in the Borough. The secretary would forward Mike Nash's email to John Perry who had kindly undertaken to speak further to Mike Nash on this subject. (This has subsequently been dealt with by John Perry).

6 Complaints

The Secretary had reported a complaint from a resident in Matfield on the subject of being overflown by a Spitfire(s). She had explained that although we did have Spitfires flying from Headcorn they would usually go down to the

coast and that he could be overflowed by Spitfires, or indeed other aircraft, from other aerodromes or airfields.

There had been a separate complaint from a resident of High Halden who had complained about two incidents when aircraft had overflowed the village at a low level. It was felt that the aircraft were going to/from a private strip just outside of High Halden. The owner/pilot of the strip had been advised of the complaint and had undertaken to make further investigations and to make contact.

7 Any other Business

Brian Bristow asked if anything had been planned for the 75th Anniversary of VE Day next May. The response was that nothing had yet been planned but it was certainly worth looking into. John Mather reminded everybody that the May Bank holidays would change next year.

(NOTE: Early May Bank Holiday in 2020 is moved from Monday 4th May 2020 to Friday 8th May 2020).

Lyn Selby had been especially asked to say 'Thank you' on the subject of the Commemoration Ceremony at Chart Sutton. A Hurricane had attended this year and everybody was thrilled and there was now a link between the organisers and the pilot. People had been most appreciative.

8 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 10th March 2020 to include the AGM.

A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by the number '1500' written in a similar style.