



Local Government for Langton Green, Speldhurst, Ashurst and Old Groombridge

Minutes of an Air Traffic Committee Meeting held in The Council Office, Langton Green Recreation Ground on Wednesday 20th May 2015 at 9.30am

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs Barrington-Johnson (Chairman), Mrs Soyke (left at 10.37am), Mrs Hull and Mrs Podbury with Mr Howden and Mr Robinson

OFFICER PRESENT: Chris May – clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: There was one member of the public present – Mr Binns

It was noted that the election of Chairman of the committee was not on the agenda. Cllr Barrington-Johnson was elected Chairman and this will be confirmed at the next meeting of the committee.

- 1. To enquire if anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting:** No-one present intended to film, photograph and/or record the meeting.
- 2. To receive and approve apologies and reason for absence:** There were none.
- 3. Disclosure of Interests:** There were none.
- 4. Declarations of Lobbying:** All members said that they had had discussions with a number of residents about the increase in the noise over recent months.
- 5. Minutes:** It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting dated **27th February 2015**, copies having previously been forwarded to Members, be approved and signed as a correct record.
- 6. Public Open Session:** Members of the public are invited to make representations to the Committee on any matters relating to the work of the Committee or to raise any issues of concern.

Mr Binns said that the previous weekend had been the worst for the number of flights and especially noise at night. He asked why night flights could not be re-directed over Ashdown where it would affect less people.

There was a long discussion centred on the Council's policy of spreading the burden of aircraft noise using a broad swathe approach and the likelihood that the point merge and narrow approach will continue.

Whilst Council policy (in line with HWCAAG, TWBC and KCC policies) is for a broad swathe there is a view that this is not possible. It is necessary to fully understand the arguments why a broad

swathe is not possible and until then interim the Committee will not consider making any suggestion to the full Council for revision of Council policy.

7. **Matters Arising and Correspondence:** There were none
8. **Meeting with Gatwick Airport Limited (GAL):** About 10 Councils had been invited with two Councillors from each Council. Cllrs Barrington-Johnson and Mrs Podbury would attend. Three questions had been passed from HWCAAG that had not been answered at their meeting in February and Rusthall PC had submitted their questions.
Cllr Barrington-Johnson would try and lead the discussion with the above and additionally ask about night flights and A320s
9. **To consider the next actions regarding the concentration of flight paths, airbus noise and night flights:** It was agreed to have an open ended discussion in the near future
10. **Consideration of the content of the Air Traffic web page:** There was to be no material change
11. **Items for information:** There were none

The meeting closed at 10.53am

Chairman