

My name is Neil Reeve and I have served as a High Easter Parish Councillor for the last 5 years, I have responsibility on behalf of the Parish Council for considering all matters relating to Stansted Airport and their impact on our community.

In 2019 I was elected as an Uttlesford District Councillor and am a member of the Uttlesford Planning Committee. I was part of the committee when the decision to refuse this application was decided. I also represent the District on the Stansted Airport Consultative Committee and the Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group.

I have an appreciation and understanding of the business and wider issues relating to the airport, however in my role today, I am representing the community of High Easter and will share a few personal experiences of what it is like to live directly under a flight path.

High Easter Parish Council along with the majority of its residents supports Uttlesford's decision to refuse this application which if allowed would see a significant increase in aircraft overflying our village on departure route Clacton 22.

High Easter is a quiet rural village with many outlying homes and businesses, there is no ambient background noise. Aircraft on the 'Clacton 22 East' route fly directly through the parish entering at the North West and exiting at the East.

Aircraft overfly at an average of 5,000 feet, they are loud, continual and at peak times less than 2 minutes apart, they are visually intrusive. Being a rural area with low ambient noise the impact of any aircraft noise is magnified.

High Easter was adversely affected following the changes to departures routes in February 2016 and the introduction of Performance Based Navigation. 70% of aircraft departing from Stansted now fly over the parish, this is more than double the percentage pre-February 2016 when numbers of flights were also less. The community feels severely let down by the decision makers and there has been no attempt by MAG to discuss our issues or to find ways to mitigate their impact. The enjoyment of gardens and public outdoor space is severely disturbed, and conversations have to stop whilst aircraft pass over. There is no respite unless the wind direction changes.

Night flights between 23.00hrs and 07.00hrs are a serious disturbance. Our early morning 'rush hour' starts at 06.15am. Night flights should be stopped.

In their application MAG states '*No significant adverse environmental effects from this application.*' Irrespective of the complex technical statistics and arguments, there is disbelief in the community that an Airport can increase its capacity, silently!

The Aviation Policy Framework ('APF') dated March 2013 states: "The Government recognises that noise is the primary concern of local communities near airports'. Since 2013 the government has been working on emerging

guidance which is due to be published in 2021, within this guidance noise reduction becomes a priority up to 7,000ft. By not adequately considering noise impacts between 4,000ft and 7,000ft, MAG has disregarded the impact on High Easter and similar communities.

The environmental impact analysis has used average noise contours to measure aircraft noise. Averages don't work, they do not take account of the low ambient background noise or the cumulative impact. Each discrete flight is a nuisance.

MAG claim "noise levels will fall from 2023 due to quieter aircraft". How can larger aircraft be quieter? This is patent nonsense. Given the current pandemic, and the financial impact on aviation companies, issues with the Boeing 737max, how can MAGs targets be relied on or be achievable?

The travel industry has been transformed by Covid-19, and the country's long-term air travel needs are unknown. Many of us are spending more time working from home and enjoying the outdoors wherever possible. In this new world we live in, increasing caps on passenger numbers and aircraft movements is both undesirable and unnecessary.

To conclude, we urge you to support Uttlesford's decision to refuse this application. If this decision is not upheld it will have a significant and adverse impact on those who live and work in High Easter and those of future generations.

Thank you.