



Warnham Parish Council

Gatwick Policy Statement

Adopted 10th April 2018, amended 22nd January 2019

The Parish Council is opposed to any additional runways at Gatwick Airport.

Introduction

1. The purpose of this policy statement is to set out the principles on which the Parish Council will seek to ensure that residents of the parish do not suffer from excessive levels of noise resulting from the movement of aircraft and more concentrated flight paths over the parish. Our position is that levels of noise should not be greater than those experienced pre-2013 when Performance Route Navigation (PRNAV) was introduced on all departure routes.
2. In addressing this issue, the Council's primary consideration will be to act in ways which give priority to the interests of the residents of Warnham parish. We will, however, act in concert with other parishes and organisations where this is likely to be more effective; for example, in opposing any proposal to develop a second runway at Gatwick.

Liaison with Gatwick Airport Ltd and other aviation bodies

3. The Council will seek to establish a format for regular liaison with Gatwick Airport and other relevant bodies. In the case of Gatwick, for example, we envisage that this might take the form of twice yearly meetings between the Council and a member of the Gatwick management team. We anticipate that this would be the most effective way of addressing any concerns and of working towards greater mutual understanding. The parish will remain a member of CAGNE Town and Parish Council Aviation Forum and the Gatwick Area Conservation Group.

Protection for residents of the parish against unacceptable levels of aircraft noise

4. The Council recognises that, given the parish's proximity to Gatwick, a certain level of aircraft noise disturbance is inevitable. We will, however, oppose any proposed changes (for example to frequency or routing of flights) which would be likely to have an unfair and inequitable impact upon parishioners (see Paragraph 1). The Council will also seek to protect the parish from any potentially harmful effects on local infrastructure in the event of Gatwick's expansion.
5. The Council will seek to have the levels of noise reduced by limiting the current amount of traffic on the existing multiple routings over or close to the parish. We will also seek to protect the parish from the possible impact of any increases in air traffic from Heathrow and other airports.
6. In order to be better informed about the varying levels of aircraft noise in the parish, the Council will press for the provision of a noise monitor.
7. We will lobby for a considerable reduction in or, ideally, a ban on the movement of aircraft during night-time.
8. The Council will seek technical expert advice on the impacts of proposed changes where it considers this necessary and feasible.

Responding to residents' complaints about aircraft noise

9. Where parishioners are experiencing excessive levels of aircraft noise, the Council will raise their concerns with the relevant body. For such concerns to carry weight, however, they need to be specific and irrefutable. Ideally, therefore, they should be supported by evidence from tracking systems such as Casper.

10. The Council will provide up-to-date information on how it is responding to issues and consultations relating to aircraft movements over the parish. We will also notify parishioners of consultations in order that they may participate if they so wish.
11. Insofar as it is possible, and where timescales allow, the Council's responses will endeavour to reflect the views of residents.