



GATWICK AREA CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN

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Gatwick's Big Enough: Demonstration in Charlwood, Wednesday 8 September **Campaigners oppose plans to bring emergency runway into regular use**

Following Gatwick Airport's announcement that the public consultation into its proposed expansion plans will open on 9 September 2021, the Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign (GACC), together with local residents and councillors, will hold a peaceful demonstration near the Airport to highlight their opposition to the airport's proposals.

When: 4.15pm, Wednesday 8 September

Where: By the noise monitor in the Glebe Field (adjacent to St Nicholas church)*

What: Campaigners will gather with placards and a large banner. Peter Barclay, GACC Chairman will outline the reasons for opposing the scheme.

Penny Shoubridge, Charlwood Parish Council Chairperson, will say: *"Gatwick really is big enough. Residents already have to endure night flights, intense noise, excess traffic and pollution. More flights will take the well-being and health of our community to unacceptable and intolerable levels and have a serious impact on our quality of life."*

Charles Lloyd from Penshurst in Kent will say: *"More flights will mean more noise and sleep deprivation for people living under flightpaths. Noise has a huge effect on our health and quality of life."*

Jonathan Essex, a Green Councillor on Surrey County Council will say: *"The overwhelming scientific consensus is that we urgently need to bring down greenhouse gas emissions if we are to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of climate change. With these impacts so clear, it makes no sense to allow Gatwick Airport to expand, adding another 1 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions per annum."*

Campaigning for a better environment for the whole area around Gatwick

GACC, founded in 1968, has as paid-up members over 50 councils and over 40 community groups. We have built a reputation for sound judgement and reliable information and thus have the support of all local Members of Parliament.

Peter Barclay will say: *"There is no need or other case for expansion at Gatwick. GACC and many local community groups have vowed to challenge these proposals as robustly as possible."*

Further information and photos: Peter Barclay 01293 862821 or 07720 397354, info@gacc.org.uk

ENDS

Notes to Editors

* Meet by the Half Moon pub, 73 The Street, Charlwood, RH6 0DS, at 4pm

Gatwick's owners plan to grow the airport's passenger capacity by over 65% through a combination of re-aligning and widening the existing emergency (or standby) runway to form a second runway, and using new technology on the main runway. If it gets its way, Gatwick would grow from 45 million passengers and 280,000 flights annually in 2018, to over 75 million passengers and 390,000 flights by 2038, nearly the size of Heathrow. On 9 September 2021, Gatwick will begin a public consultation on the changes to the emergency runway.