

# Weston on the Green Airfield Concern - July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

**Issue:** We understand that there is to be a commercial venture for parachuting that will occur on weekends. Basic concern for the villages of Weston on the Green, Chesterton, Middleton Stoney, Wendlebury, Kirtlington, Bletchingdon and Chesterton is that of noise and increased traffic.

Diane asked Jon Kirk who is with the RAF to assist in arranging a meeting and also is questioning the noise assessment already done by the airfield.

We have received some letters from a resident of Wendlebury who is very concerned about what could lie ahead. Her Chair of PC will represent her view.

Diane Bohm and Jon Kirk met with Squadron Leader Liam Power on Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss the issue.

## Notes:

- OC RAF WOTG (Squadron Leader Liam Power) very keen to engage with local PCs.
- Proposed Operation:
  - Skydive Centre (not for profit organisation) keen to complete charity tandem skydives at RAF WOTG.
  - Trial period Jul-Sep 24 with local PCs fully engaged throughout.
  - From then, the intention is that Civ parachuting will be completed at weekends Mar-Oct.
  - Aircraft used will be Cessna 208B caravan (88dB at 1m on full power).
  - 20-30 tandem jumps per day, 4 parachutists in the ac, so assume 8 sorties per day.
  - Plan is to complete 2 sorties (drops) of 20 mins duration then fly away for refuel and return 40 mins.
- Glider Club deconfliction. RAF WOTG in discussion with the Gliding Club. Deconfliction going to be an issue.
- Licensing
  - RAF WOTG has licence for Civil parachuting - Liam said listed within ENR 5.5 and we can check.
- Noise
  - RAF WOTG have completed basic Noise Assessment which shows very low noise levels at the villages but doesn't take into account constant noise of aircraft climbing in same location versus transiting aircraft noise.
  - Aim is to climb outside of the 2 NM Drop Zone around airfield and move climbing areas around the village areas but this clearly depends on wind direction.
- Proposed Way Ahead
  - Further meeting with PC leaders, RAF WOTG and Skydive Centre.
  - Thorough engagement through trial period inc Noise assessment completed in villages by PC (RAF to provide calibrated meters).
  - Need to think about how we can manage any potential for growth.

**Next steps:** DB has arranged a meeting with six parish chairs and Liam Power at the airfield on July 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm.