

THRUXTON & DISTRICT PROTECTION SOCIETY (TDPS)

ANNUAL MEETING AT BARC MAIN OFFICES, THRUXTON AIRFIELD

10 OCTOBER 2024

ATTENDEES

- Brian Hamilton (BH) – Chairman TDPS
- Edward Bailey (EB) – TDPS
- Peter Christie (PC)– Chairman Thruxton Parish Council
- Ben Taylor (BT) – CEO BARC, Thruxton Racing Circuit
- Alex Thistlethwayte (AT) – Owner, Thruxton airfield
- Pat Blakeney (PB) – BARC
- Lorne Mitchener (LM) – BARC

APOLOGIES

- Peter Clements – TDPS
- Niall Macginnis – TDPS

NOTES/ACTIONS

1. BH welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies from Peter Clements and Niall Macginnis, and thanked BARC for hosting the meeting. He welcomed Alex Thistlethwayte as the new owner of Thruxton airfield and looked forward to his support and engagement. BH stated that actions from the previous meeting in Sep 23 would be taken during the agenda item discussions below.
2. Racing Schedule BT outlined the racing calendar (V2) for 2025. He requested that test days could be accommodated again on school days on 2 May and 6 Jun 25. PC, in his capacity as a school governor stated that the test days which occurred this year on 7 Jun and 20 Sep had not created a noise issue. It was agreed that the requested test days on school days next year could be accommodated, noting that this is an exception to the injunction restrictions and should be requested by BARC again in future years if required. BT said he would confirm if there are any changes to the race calendar and circulate the final programme asap. The final race programme dated 10/10/24 is attached and does not have any changes to that reviewed by the meeting. The race schedule as proposed was accepted by the meeting.
3. Noise Monitoring BT described the noise monitoring process with static testing in the pits as well as trackside automated sensing which records exceedances over a given level, currently set to 90dB. BT confirmed that the operation of track days is limited to a static noise test level of 90dB, which is a figure agreed between the circuit and the previous Landlord some years ago. BT stressed that that the injunction's noise restriction requires the use of road silenced vehicles which in

earlier years produced in excess of 90dB but are now still road legal although not used on the racing circuit. BT had been requested to show a breakdown of exceedances of 90dB by race days but found that this had been difficult to achieve. PB said that track side monitoring automatically flagged up exceedances in the pits which they used to pull in offending cars. It was requested if this information could be made available to others. BT stated that this was for internal monitoring but suggested it could be achievable to quantify the noise levels during a complete race day. It was agreed this would be valuable and BT agreed to investigate.

Action - BT

4. Sunday Race Timings BT had requested that Sunday racing may commence at 1015. EB stated that he had been trying to confirm the church timings with Revd Sarah Sharland. He said that there was uncertainty of the church service timings so predicting racing start times on Sunday was difficult. EB said he would get confirmation of church timings from Revd Sarah by end of the year. In the meantime, race timings on Sundays would remain as per the agreement (0900 to 0920, commencing again at 1045). **ACTION - EB**
5. Plans for the Airfield AT outlined his plans for airfield development. These included attracting some turboprop aircraft such as PC 12 and Kingair with hangarage. He also would like to provide support to warbird aircraft, possibly from Biggin Hill with glass-fronted hangars in order to provide an aviation experience for visitors. He mentioned he has plans to develop the restaurant with an improved dining facility upstairs and a café downstairs in the current improved building. AT also outlined his plans to develop the industrial site on the southern side of the airfield in sympathetically enhancing and developing the current buildings in line with their heritage.
6. AOB BH asked whether BARC would consider offering a track day next year which would allow the villages to sell tickets for the event; the proceeds of which would provide funds for village projects. BT said that this had been done before and there was concern that the tickets had been undersold. He said that providing such a day would cost in the region of £20K. LM suggested that it could be worth considering a firework display provided by BARC next Halloween. Tickets for the event could be sold to locals and the resulting ticket sales used for village projects. It was agreed that BH would liaise with PB and LM to investigate further. **ACTION - BH, PB, LM**

There were no other points raised by attendees. BH drew the meeting to a close and thanked all for their contributions.

18 October 2024