

Wendy Strangeway

From: Ian & Jackie
Sent: 07 January 2017 17:02
To: Planning
Subject: NYM/2016/0817/FL South Moor Farm Air Strip

Dear Sir,

We wish to support the revised Planning application for South Moor Farm airstrip, as set out under the above reference.

The level of activity at a typical farm airstrip is highly unlikely to have an adverse effect on any of the local wildlife. I have been flying from Bodmin airfield in Cornwall, since it was established there in the early 1970s. It is a long established small grass airfield, located within the Moor. There is a wide variety of wildlife and the expanse of the airfield is an ideal habitat. Even the hangars are used for nesting by swallows and other small birds; not always popular when washing down aircraft, but happily tolerated.

Part of my grandfather's farm in Lincolnshire was compulsorily purchased to form some of Sturgate airfield, in the second world war. Afterwards it was used by the U.S.A.F and a wing of jet fighters was based there; about 70 aircraft at times. Flying activities were almost constant, for several years. In my childhood, in the midst of the noise of the jet aircraft, the airfield was home to innumerable skylarks and lapwings, happily co-existing with all the flying and vehicular activity, not to mention the noise from the busy shooting range. We had an arrangement to use part of the airfield perimeter track to reach land cut off by the building of the airfield. I had plenty of opportunity to view the wildlife there.

When the U.S.A.F left the airfield in the late 1950s, there were many continuing activities there, including vast numbers of model flyers. No impact at all on bird and wildlife.

The local - sometimes intensively farmed - land was probably less wildlife friendly than the airfield.

Yours faithfully

David Ian Law and Mrs. J. A. Law

12 Shirburn Road
Torquay
Devon
TQ1 3JH

