

Bagby Airfield owner “Delighted” with lack of opposition

It has been reported that support for “Action4Refusal” is collapsing after only 53 people attended a local residents meeting.

A local residents meeting, held at Bagby Village Hall on Saturday 21 February 2009, variously described as a Parish Council Meeting, a local residents meeting and an Action4Reusal meeting, failed to attract the 300 objectors who are said to have attended the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 12 June 2008 to discuss the earlier plans submitted by Martin Scott, owner of Bagby Airfield.

Of the 50 or so attending the meeting a significant number appeared to be in favour of the proposals despite overwhelming pressure from the Parish Council Chairman, Steve Humphreys, to paint the revised development plan in its worst possible light.

People who attended were asked to complete objection forms prepared by Action4Refusal stating their grounds for refusal. Help and advice was given by those Parish Council members who attended the meeting to individuals who were unsure as to what they were supposed to be objecting to.

Whilst attendees were officially prohibited by the Chairman from taking Action4Refusal forms away with them, Ms J Varey, Secretary to the Parish Council, was seen to actively encourage the forms removal from the meeting so that others might be persuaded to complete them later.

Martin Scott said:

“Obviously it was a lively debate but I am afraid a degree of misinformation still persists to the extent that some in the local community believe we are attempting to build a trade park via the back door if not the next Leeds Bradford Airport.

It is very difficult to deal with these sort of statements as they suggest a level of misinformation which is always difficult to correct. Those that actually read the plans rather than rely on hearsay will hopefully be impressed by the balance struck between the commercial activities on the site and the sustainable environmental approach adopted.”

Martin Scott went on to say:

“I am concerned that Action4Reusal may try to attempt to rig the vote by declaring more attendees at the meeting than there actually were.

I counted 53 at the meeting of whom at least 10 attending were known to me as supporters of the proposals. I do not therefore think that it can be said by any stretch of the imagination that the village as a whole were against the proposals as previously they had attempted to convey.

I am delighted that common sense seems to be winning through.”