

From: deputychairman@rafhaa.co.uk
Sent: 12 January 2021 13:00
To: 'Brian.thompson12@outlook.com'
Cc: Chairman RAFHAA
Subject: RAF Halton closure
Attachments: RAFHAA submission to DIO - v4 - 20 12-18.pdf

Tracking:	Recipient	Read
	'Brian.thompson12@outlook.com'	
	Chairman RAFHAA	
	chairman@rafhaa.co.uk	Read: 12/01/2021 13:03

Dear Mr Thompson

I am writing to you in my capacity as Deputy Chairman and a Trustee of the RAF Halton Apprentices' Association (RAFHAA) having been given your email address by my colleague Derek 'Min' Larkin.

During the course of 2020 significant changes were implemented regarding the aims, objectives and management of the Association. This period of change resulted in a significantly strengthened Association Council (now a 12 persons strong body of ex-Apprentices with appropriate skills) and a correction of our financial position which has clearly enabled us to move forwards with our Heritage plans as we draw closer to the closure of RAF Halton.

I am aware that there has been contact and discussion between Halton Parish Council and the Association in the past and we now wish to place this dialogue into a more formal setting whereby we can collaborate on the objectives that we share and see what assistance we can render one another. You will know I am sure that the heart of our proposals is the conservation of St Georges church and its stained glass windows, The Tribute and the Trenches. To this we would also like to relocate and add the Trenchard Museum and the James McCudden Flight Heritage centre so as to create a varied Heritage site attractive to the public and also the wide community of ex-Apprentices and those who have joined the RAF through Halton in more recent years.

I attach to this email a copy of our submission regarding the public consultation phase of the DIO plans for RAF Halton and hopefully this will provide you with a more detailed insight into our plans. We are now commencing the work needed to draw up a detailed business plan and then engage with sources of funding to add to our current reserves and enable delivery of this project.

I would welcome the opportunity to talk with you via, preferably, MS Teams or failing that a similar virtual meeting tool. I would also appreciate it if you could advise me of where Halton Parish Council is with the creation of its Neighbourhood Plan as this will surely need to recognise St Georges as within an area that should not be developed.

Given the current Covid-19 disruption we will need to handle any communication via e-mail and virtual meetings but hopefully when things improve there will be an opportunity to invite you to an RAFHAA Council meeting. Most ex-Apprentices (or Trenchard Brats as we are known) will have fond memories of our time at Halton and we are keen to maintain the wonderful green spaces that the area from St Georges up to Halton House contain while creating a viable museum to generate visitors and local employment.

I look forward to talking with you.

Kind regards
Charles Challinger

Chas Challinger
Deputy Chairman & Development

deputychairman@rafhaa.co.uk

07850 596654