

Farnborough Airport Consultative Committee
Farnborough Airport
Hampshire
GU14 6XA



10 12 2021

For the attention of: P Riley, Chairman

Copy to: W Hope, Secretary and J Radley, Chairman of Membership Working Group

By email.

Dear Mr Chairman,

APPLICATION FOR A MEMBER OF BLACKWATER VALLEY FRIENDS OF THE EARTH
TO JOIN THE F.A.C.C. AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS

As Co-ordinator of the Blackwater Friends of the Earth (BVFoE), I am formally applying for one of our members [Jules Crossley] to join the Farnborough Aerodrome Consultative Committee (FACC) in order to represent the interests of local environmental groups. Jules will also disseminate information from the FACC meetings to the BVFoE and other local groups with whom we have an alliance.

BVFoE is a part of Friends of the Earth UK (FoE UK, <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/about-us>), which is itself a member of an international community dedicated to protecting the natural world and the well-being of everyone in it. FoE UK, established in 1971, leads campaigns, provide resources and information, and drives real solutions to the environmental problems facing us all. BVFoE (<https://friendsoftheearth.uk/groups/backward-compatible>) is the local Friends of the Earth group concerned with conserving and improving the environment of the Farnborough, Fleet, Aldershot, Camberley, Bagshot and Frimley areas. The group aims to make life better for people who are living in, working in, or visiting the area by inspiring solutions to environmental problems. At present we have 74 active members, who either pay a subscription or contribute their time in areas of specific interest to them, for example planting trees, rewilding spaces and running stalls at public events.

BVFoE is a well-respected environmental organisation locally having been in existence since the 1980s (formally as Fleet, Farnborough and Camberley FoE). We are currently in regular dialogue with Rushmoor and Hart Borough Council and Surrey Heath District Council to support their work on climate change and we have a representative on Hampshire County Council's Climate Change Expert Stakeholder Forum. BVFoE also frequently works with other local groups with similar aspirations, jointly campaigning on environmental issues locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. The list of local groups that we work closely with is consistently growing, and includes; Yateley Climate Action Network, Rowhill Copse, Tices Meadow, Fleet Pond, Yateley Common, Friends of Queen Elizabeth Park, Cove Brook Association, Waverley Friends of the Earth, North Camp Support Group, Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust and Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership.

Most members of BVFoE have lived in the area for all, or most of our lives, and have historical connections to Farnborough Airfield through work, family, educational visits, attending the air-show, courses at Farnborough College of Technology etc. and view it as an integral part of our community. The aims and objectives of the FACC are ones that we are

closely aligned with, i.e. that the local community should be well informed about the positive benefits and potentially negative effects of operations at the airport. We are keen to work with all the stakeholders who are part of the FACC, including Farnborough Airport Limited, in order to maximise the potential of Farnborough Airport while balancing the environmental impacts and the needs and concerns of the local community.

I believe our group is best placed to represent environmental concerns on the FACC, having the respect and support of many local people and other environmental groups in the area.

Please find attached a copy of our constitution as requested. Jules Crossley would be very happy to deliver a short presentation about BVFoE at the next FACC meeting, to support our application, if this would be useful.

I look forward to receiving a positive response from you at your earliest convenience.

Regards

Sarah Wood

Co-ordinator of Blackwater Valley Friends of the Earth