

Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign **GACC**

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Seminar confirms opposition to new Gatwick runway

A packed seminar organised jointly by CPRE Surrey, CPRE Sussex and GACC on 25 October examined the arguments for and against a new runway at Gatwick.

150 representatives of county councils, borough and district councils and parish councils, together with national representatives from WWF and the National Trust, planning officers and other experts, plus four local MPs and one Member of the European Parliament, crowded into the conference centre at the Stanhill Court Hotel. The opening speech was made by Cabinet member, Rt Hon Francis Maude, who said that the voice of opposition ‘needed to be heard with clarion certainty.’

Great concern was expressed about drawing more workers and passengers from the north, climate change, increased noise, the impact of 40,000 extra houses, the pressure on schools, hospitals, local road and rail services.

A resolution that “Those here would oppose any new runway at LGW” was passed with overwhelming support.

The event was supported with a grant from the Lush charitable fund.

GACC is the main environmental body concerned with Gatwick. Founded in 1968, we have as members nearly 100 Borough, District and Parish Councils and environmental groups covering about a twenty miles radius from the airport. Our committee, elected annually, represents all areas. Because we rely on rational argument and put forward constructive solutions we have had strong support in Parliament and at every level of government.