

Press Release dated 2nd June 2012, SAEN changes to Stop Airport Expansion and Noise.

SAEN has changed,

At our EGM, the members voted to change our aims and name. We are now

STOP AIRPORT EXPANSION and NOISE

Rising from the ashes of its bitter and expensive battle to avoid the extension of the runway; we will continue to challenge the decisions which blight so many lives. SAEN will be fighting for and advising on the best way to claim compensation for the loss of the Quality of life, as well as the reduced property values.

To this end we have arranged a meeting to put forward our advice to the blighted residents and we have invited a local solicitor to speak on the subject.

The meeting will be held on Friday 6th July at Leigh Community Centre Hall, commencing at 8.00 pm.

The stalwarts who have followed the progress of the campaign from the beginning say that they have no intention of giving up. Part of the reason for their resolute stance is the recent announcement that Stobart who own the lease of the airport wishes to increase the capacity of the new terminal building to cater for 6 million passengers per year.

SAEN did try to warn the public that allowing the extension to the runway was only the thin end of the wedge of plans for the area. Once they applied to extend the runway and hence circumnavigated the JAAP process, we were denied a public enquiry and all expansion actions are passed by the 2 councils without the need to consult the local residents. There is still only a minority of Southend and Rochford residents who will have to put up with planes every few minutes flying over their heads but this still accounts for over 60,000 people, including those in schools, homes for the elderly and council estates under the designated flight path.

Planes must either take off or land over parts of Southend and Rochford, and SAEN will be encouraging all those affected to complain to the airport when their lives are affected by noise and air pollution. More importantly, residents will be asked to direct a copy of their complaint directly to SAEN, by copying their e-mails to copycomp@talktalk.net so that a dossier of complaints can be constructed.

It appears that neither Southend Council nor individual Councillors will take responsibility for complaints made to them about environmental concerns, in spite of the fact that its administration has not only been responsible for increasing pollution in Southend and Rochford by allowing the airport to expand, but signed up to the Nottingham Declaration, publicly declaring their commitment to addressing climate change and to reducing the carbon footprint of the town.

Did you know, based on the flights listed for Saturday 2nd June 2012, Easyjet alone, have 18 flights scheduled and will be responsible for dumping over 330 metric tonnes of CO2 pollution in ONE day. Each passenger on each flight will, personally be responsible for adding over 14.5 lbs of CO2 to the air we all breath. *(these figures are rough calculations, they assume that each plane has 156 passengers & the CO2 produced is taken from the web site <http://www.cheap-parking.net/flight-carbon-emissions.php>, which averages out the emissions produced by all types of passenger jets..The A319s that Easyjet fly should be slightly better, but they will not be 100% capacity, so the average per plane may be lower, but the average per person will be higher)*

SAEN vows to try to stand up for the residents of the airport environs against the unbelievably bad decisions of Southend and Rochford Councils

It is for the above reasons that SAEN, retaining the acronym, has changed its aims.
SAEN must now stand for

STOP AIRPORT EXPANSION and NOISE

We will fight to stop any further expansion, to abolish night flights, to delay the early morning flights until a more reasonable hour, to fight against the inevitable increase in road traffic, to fight against the increase in air pollution and to advice on compensation claims.

Enough is Enough and No More Noise & Air Pollution.