

Appendix 1: Proposed Model Flying Hours

Option	Summary	Pros & Cons
1	<p>Do nothing, leave the hours unchanged:</p> <p>Monday -Friday 10am until 7pm or dusk whichever is earliest. Weekends 11am until 4pm. (Except bank holidays and race days)</p>	<p>These hours were adopted following the review of the management plan for St. Mary's Lands in 2004. At that time the model planes relied upon petrol engines that generated a background noise, which had led to resident complaints. Since the revised times were adopted, noisy petrol planes have been largely phased out in favour of silent electric planes and residents have not complained for many years.</p> <p>The current times do not allow for weekend late afternoon / evening flying, a popular time for the flying group.</p>
2	<p>Ecologist recommended hours:</p> <p>1st April to 15th August Every day: 11am until 7pm.</p> <p>16th August to 31st March Every day: 10am until 1 hour before sunset. (Except race days)</p>	<p>The ecology report has recommended dividing the flying hours between a spring / summer sensitive period when birds are most active and a less sensitive autumn / winter period. The ecologist has extended weekend flying hours during the spring / summer period by an extra 3-hours per day but reduced the morning weekday start from 10am to 11am. This is because the mornings are important times for feeding and display flights. The ending of flying 1-hour before sunset also provides the birds a final hour in the day without disturbance.</p> <p>The model flyers are advising that '1 hour before sunset' is not possible to monitor. However, many phone apps would provide this information easily whilst on site or in planning a visit. The ecologist recommendations are intended to address the cumulative impact of disturbance at the site. The revised hours are combined with improving measures to control dogs and walkers across the site when birds are breeding.</p>
3	<p>Model Flyers preferred hours with Working Party amendments:</p> <p>1st April – 31st August Every day: 10am to 8pm</p> <p>1st September – 31st March: Everyday: 10am – 7pm or sunset whichever is the sooner. (Except race days).</p>	<p>The model flyers were originally requesting flying during the spring / summer period to 9pm but have agreed to reduce that to 8pm, one hour more than the ecologist recommendation. The flying hours during the autumn / winter period is until sunset, not one hour before but they have argued that as the weather at this time of year is not conducive to flying, it is unlikely that there will be frequent times when flyers are there until sunset during this period.</p>

		<p>Both the ecologist and model flyers have agreed on a 10am start during the less sensitive autumn / winter period, but the flyers would like the 10am start to be consistent throughout the whole year.</p> <p>The Working Party have proposed that these hours are adopted for a 12-month trial period to assess what impact might occur before making a decision on any permanent change.</p>
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