



RAF Honington – Loss of Licence

It is with great sadness I have to inform Club Members that the Defence Infrastructure Organization (DIO) has informed me that, with effect from 1st October, our Licence to use RAF Honington as a model flying site will be withdrawn. The Club has operated model aircraft from Honington for the best part of 60 years and the loss of the site is a severe blow to Club Members who enjoyed the freedoms offered by the vast expanse of runway/taxiway/operating pans at weekends and public holidays during our tenure.

The loss of Licence is due to the expected arrival of the Volunteer Gliding School (VGS). This organization is tasked to provide “air experience” flights for the various air cadet groups in the hope that these cadets will be motivated to join the RAF in due course. The VGS management are unwilling to share the airfield environment with the model club and thus we have to quit the site. Unfortunately, there is no “push-back” available for us and it is a “done deal”.

The loss of Honington is a timely reminder that another of our sites (Rougham) is subject to planning approval for development. Thus, it is inevitable that we will eventually lose another site in the future. (Your guess is as good as mine as regards actual dates!) We all need to be pro-active in the search for a long-term replacement site.