## **ACCIDENT**

Aircraft Type and Registration: Vans RV-8, G-CHPK

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming YIO-360-M1B piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 2014 (Serial no: PFA 303-14535)

Date & Time (UTC): 24 February 2017 at 1400 hrs

**Location:** On approach to Bidford Airfield, Warwickshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None
Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Engine shock-loaded, propeller, spats and

firewall damaged

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 65 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 4,000 hours (of which 20 were on type)

Last 90 days - 18 hours Last 28 days - 2 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the

pilot

The pilot reported that the takeoff was normal but at a height of approximately 1,500 ft he detected some mild vibration from the engine and decided to return to the airfield. During the downwind leg for a landing on Runway 24 he noted that the exhaust gas temperature (EGT) for the number 4 cylinder was very low at 150°F. This was lower than the EGT on the other three cylinders, which all read 1,500°F.

The pilot conducted a glide approach using sideslip to control his height. However, during the flare and landing the sun was in his eyes and he lost his visual references, with the result that the aircraft ran off the side of the runway into a ploughed field and tipped onto its nose. Both occupants were uninjured, but the aircraft sustained damage to the propeller, firewall, and wheel spats.

© Crown copyright 2017 57