ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration: Thruster T600N, G-MZNX
No & Type of Engines: 1 Rotax 503 UL-2V-DCDI piston engine
Year of Manufacture: 1998 (Serial no: 9098-T600N-026)
Date & Time (UTC): 5 August 2018 at 1045 hrs
Location: Longside Airfield
Type of Flight: Private
Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None
Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage: Nosewheel collapsed, damage to fibreglass pod and left wing tip
Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age: 82 years
Commander's Flying Experience: 1,942 hours (of which 325 were on type)
               Last 90 days - 9 hours
               Last 28 days - 5 hours
Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot reported that he flew to Longside airfield in slightly thermic conditions and made an overhead join to view the windsock. He assessed the wind as 5 to 8 kt, varying around 225°, and positioned the aircraft to join the circuit for a landing on Runway 28. During the downwind leg the pilot experienced significant thermal activity and during the later stage of the final approach, while at a height of 10 to 15 ft agl, he experienced a high rate of sink and the aircraft bounced on the runway. The pilot initiated a go-around by applying full power while the aircraft was still in the air, but the aircraft descended into the grass at the side of the runway, where the nose landing gear collapsed and the left wing made contact with the ground. The pilot was uninjured.