

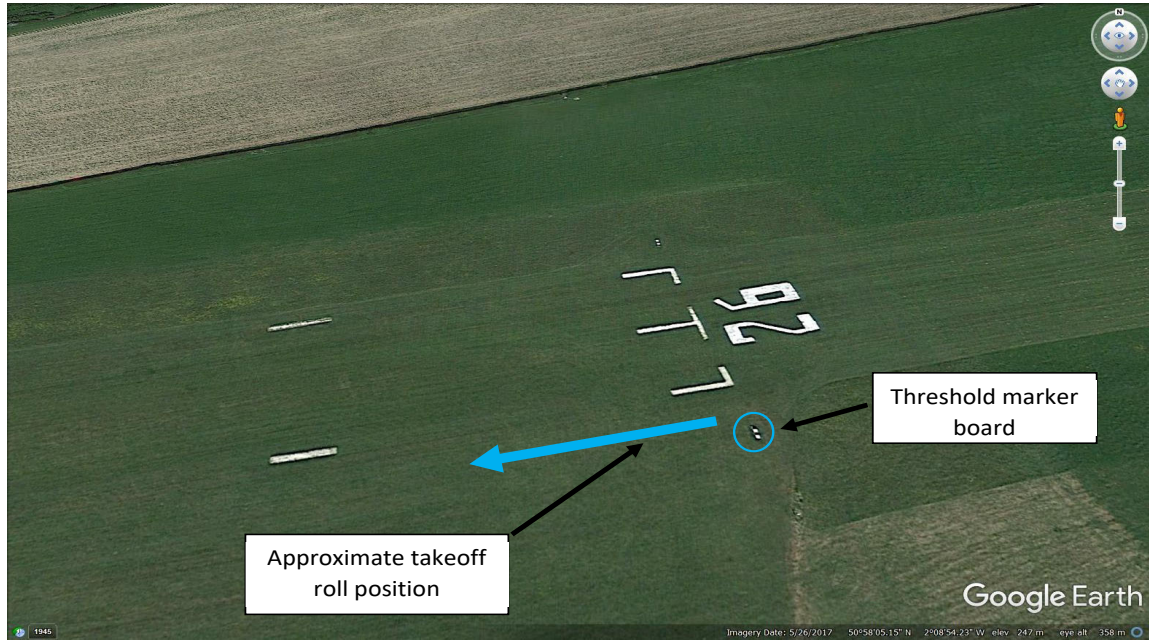
**SERIOUS INCIDENT**

<b>Aircraft Type and Registration:</b>	Piper PA-38-112, G-BPPF	
<b>No &amp; Type of Engines:</b>	1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine	
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1979 (Serial no: 38-79A0578)	
<b>Date &amp; Time (UTC):</b>	6 September 2020 at 1605 hrs	
<b>Location:</b>	Compton Abbas Airfield, Salisbury	
<b>Type of Flight:</b>	Private	
<b>Persons on Board:</b>	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
<b>Injuries:</b>	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
<b>Nature of Damage:</b>	None	
<b>Commander's Licence:</b>	Private Pilot's Licence	
<b>Commander's Age:</b>	54 years	
<b>Commander's Flying Experience:</b>	202 hours (of which 57 were on type) Last 90 days - 4 hours Last 28 days - 1 hour	
<b>Information Source:</b>	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot was visiting Compton Abbas Airfield and, having taxied out for departure, proceeded to line up on what he thought was the runway. He had actually lined up to the left of the runway. During the takeoff roll, the aircraft pulled to the left, which was subsequently diagnosed as a binding left brake. This, combined with his starting position, meant he got close to a line of parked aircraft. The pilot described that he lined up to the right of what looked like two 'black cones'.

The UK Aeronautical Publication (AIP)<sup>1</sup> page on Compton Abbas details the runway markings which include black and white runway threshold markers positioned to the side of the runway threshold. Figure 1 is an image from Google Earth showing the boards and the chalk marked runway. The pilot of G-BPPF probably lined up between the marker board and the left side chalk line of the runway.

It is the AIP that contains validated aviation data, but image tools can be extremely useful to pilots who are visiting places that they may not be familiar with. Whilst they do not provide detailed, up to date information, they can add a visual image of what to expect.



**Figure 1**

Runway 26 threshold showing the marker board and the approximate takeoff roll of G-BPPF