

**BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2009 AT 2.30 PM**

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Present: Mr V Astling OBE - Chairman

In attendance from Birmingham International Airport Ltd:

Paul Kehoe	-	Chief Executive Officer
Joe Kelly	-	Executive Director and Company Secretary
Steve Hill	-	Head of Planning and Transportation
Ben Hanley	-	Environment Manager
Jack Wilson	-	Head of Environmental Projects

In attendance from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council:

Mr L Stevenson	-	Representing the ACC Secretariat
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Balsall Parish Council	-	Cllr M Longfield
Berkswell Parish Council	-	Cllr R Lloyd
Bickenhill Parish Council	-	Cllr P Wood
Birmingham City Council	-	Mr G Tringham
Catherine de Barnes Residents Association	-	Mr R Hogg
Consumers Association	-	Mr P Orton
Coventry City Council	-	Cllr B Kelsey
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	-	Cllr K Turner
Hampton in Arden Parish Council	-	Cllr C Bowen
Hampton Society	-	Mr D Morgan
Knowle Society	-	Mr J Rowley
Marston Green Residents Association	-	Mr J Stevens
North Warwickshire Borough Council	-	Cllr J Foster
Passengers Representative	-	Mrs R Tyler
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	-	Cllr Dr T Crumpton
Sheldon Residents Association	-	Mrs M Kennett
Smith's Wood Parish Council	-	Cllr F Churchill
Solihull Chamber of Commerce	-	Mrs D Fennell

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Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	- Cllr A Martin
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	- Mr L Osborne
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	- Mr P Kershaw
Warwick District Council	- Cllr G Guest
The Wychwood Club	- Mr G Heaps

Apologies were received on behalf of: -

Birmingham City Council	- Cllr J Whorwood
Birmingham City Council	- Cllr M Byrne
Citijet	- Mrs H Potts
Chelmsley Wood Town Council	- Mrs I Shaw
Fordbridge Town Council	- Cllr L Sorrell
Wolverhampton City Council	- Cllr P Wilson

**1. WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chairman and the Committee welcomed Cllr J Foster, North Warwickshire Borough Council to his first meeting.

The Chairman also announced, with regret, the recent death of Len Goodyear - Friends of Elmdon. It was the wish of the Committee that the Secretariat should forward a letter of condolence to his widow.

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee, held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2009 were submitted.

**RESOLVED**

That the Minutes be confirmed as a correct record subject to:

- (i) Councillor R Lloyd being recorded as having represented Berkswell Parish Council at Item 10 – Any Other Business.
- (ii) The correction of a typographical error at Item 4 – Airport Activities Report – Cllr M Longfield “.....traveller who had waited 1.5 hours to .....”

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING**

There were no matters arising.

**4. AIRPORT ACTIVITIES REPORT – JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2009**

The Airport Company presented their Airport Activities report for the period July to September 2009. The contents of the report, on the following topics, were taken as read:

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- Passenger, Cargo and Aircraft Movements.
- Flight Punctuality Statistics.
- Market Development – Aviation and Commercial.
- Customer Services.
- Operations.
- Airport Development.
- Community and Environment.
- Planning and Transportation.

In presenting the report, the Airport Company drew the Committee's attention to the following matters that were considered particularly worthy of note:

- The success of the International Pier opening and the 1<sup>st</sup> Airbus A380 flight at Birmingham.
- Runway extension progress, funding considerations, design commissioning and timescales.
- CAP 725 process and timescales.
- The merits of the Airports expansion proposals in the context of the UK's aviation industry.
- Good news story, e.g. the growth of the Emirate's operations at Birmingham – best ever month reported in October 2009 – up 15%.
- Handouts – “change in moving annual CAA traffic to August 09” and “UK Air Passenger Traffic Statistics 2009”.
- The loss of the service to Philadelphia USA and the reduction in BMI Baby operations.
- Working hard to re-establish routes into India.
- The “One Terminal” project to provide a better focus between the existing T1 and T2 operations.
- Project Blue – now completed. The next business review phase would be a project that would focus on the operational side of Airport business.
- Website upgrades to attract people to the Airport and heighten awareness of the West Midlands.
- Technology benefits – “augmented reality”.
- Tough Winter season expected – the 1<sup>st</sup> year that Birmingham would be running at a loss.

**Discussion Points**

Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield) – stated that the news of the Emirates operations was very encouraging. Cllr Longfield also asked why a travelator had not been incorporated into the design of the new International Pier. The Airport Company explained that this was purely down to the costing of the final scheme, although there was design provision for one to be installed retrospectively.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) – highlighted the cost of the runway extension - £120M, and asked if that cost was fully inclusive. The Airport Company confirmed that it was, although the Committee was advised that there were more

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negotiations needed to secure a more favourable interest rate as the scheme, in financial terms, needed to be sustainable for the Airport Company.

Dudley MBC (Cllr K Turner) – asked if there were any opportunities for regional funding and if the Airport Company were confident that the scheme could be funded in the current economic climate. The Airport Company stated that there were no guarantees but they were exploring every opportunity, including opportunities within the public sector.

Dudley MBC (Cllr K Turner) – asked if shareholders would have to forfeit dividends if the Airport Company was to run at a loss this financial year. The Airport Company stated that they would wish to discuss that aspect of the Airports business first with the shareholders. £4M to £5M had been taken out of the companies operating cost base this year already.

Cllr Turner also sought an update on the Police helicopter vandalism incident and the Airport Company gave this. The Airport's security arrangements were discussed in relation to the incident and reassurances were given that the controlled security zones at BHX were not compromised.

Warwick District Council (Cllr G Guest) – commented generally on the Service Level Agreement for Persons with Reduced Mobility.

The Consumers Association (Mr P Orton) – asked what type of services Emirate's were operating to and from Birmingham. It was explained that a three-class service was in use, namely economy; business and 1<sup>st</sup> class.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.

**5. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING REPORT – JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2009**

The Airport Company presented their Environment Monitoring report for the period July to September 2009. The report, which set out the following key headings, was taken as read:-

- Noise Control.
- Air Traffic.
- Air Quality.
- Complaints.
- Community Schemes.
- Surface Water.
- Waste (Recycled).
- Energy.

**Discussion Points**

Solihull MBC (Cllr A Martin) – asked how often the noise monitors were calibrated and was advised by the Airport Company that the units were self calibrating on a daily basis, together with a calibration carried out by an engineer on an annual basis. Cllr Martin also commented generally on noise levels on take off.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) – asked if the policy review issues that had been reported at the last meeting had been progressed. The Airport Company updated the Committee with regard to the Night Flying Policy together with matters associated with Engine Ground Running.

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Dudley MBC (Cllr K Turner) – spoke with regard to the construction phase of the runway and was advised by the Airport Company that a construction method statement would need the prior approval of Solihull MBC.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.

**6. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING WORKING GROUP**

The Committee was invited to receive the Minutes and Chairman's report of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2009. The Minutes and Chairman's report were taken as read.

**Discussion Points**

There were no discussion points arising from the Chairman's report and minutes.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the Minutes and report be noted.

**7. PASSENGER SERVICES AND SURFACE TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP**

The Vice-Chairman of the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Working Group, Mrs R Tyler, invited the Committee to receive both the Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2009, together with her report. The Minutes and report were taken as read.

**Discussion Points**

The Chairman – alerted the Committee to the fact that he had become aware of complaints regarding the recent changes to the use of airport baggage trolleys. He was aware that the Airport Company was reviewing the issue at that PSSTWG also had a keen interest in the matter too.

Warwick District Council (Cllr G Guest) – spoke with regard to the rapid drop off zones for airport traffic, together with the provision for blue badge holders using this. The Airport Company explained how the system worked and highlighted the fact that there was provision for extended parking for blue badge holders using the zone.

Passenger Representative (Mrs R Tyler) – highlighted the importance of the Service Level Agreement for the provision of service for Persons with Reduced Mobility.

Cllr R Lloyd (Berkswell Parish Council) – asked the Airport Company if there had been any improvements made to passenger flows through passport control following on from concerns that had been highlighted at previous meetings. The Airport Company updated the Committee on iris recognition, faro gates, and the security reasons behind the current passport control queuing layouts.

Sandwell MBC (Cllr T Crumpton) – spoke from his own experiences with passport control which, in his view, had been very good.

Dudley MBC (Cllr K Turner) – stated that, in his view, there should be no reduction in noise levels for night flying.

Warwick District Council (Cllr G Guest) – asked if it was sensible to re-visit this issue again after the 12 month review.

Solihull MBC (Mr P Kershaw) – explained the provisions of the Section 106 Agreement. Operators that used modern aircraft were unlikely to be affected by tighter controls.

Solihull MBC (Cllr A Martin) – declared an interest in matters relating to the Airport development (V-Ch of Solihull MBC Planning Committee).

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**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report and Minutes be noted.

**8. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

The next meetings will be held on 17 February, 19 May, 8 September and 24 November 2010.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted and the dates for the next meetings be agreed.