

**BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY 26 JANUARY 2005 AT 2.30 PM**

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Present: Mr V Astling - Chairman

In attendance from Birmingham International Airport Ltd:

Mr R Heard	-	Managing Director
Mr S Hill	-	Head of Planning and Development
Mr J Morris	-	Head of Corporate Affairs
Mr J Wilson	-	General Manager, Operational Planning

In attendance from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council:

Mr M Blamire-Brown & Mr L Stevenson	-	Representing the Secretary
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Balsall Parish Council	-	Councillor M Longfield
Balsall Common Residents Association	-	Mr D Ellis
Barston Parish Council	-	Mr D Read
Berkswell Parish Council	-	Councillor D Hitchcock
Bickenhill Parish Council	-	Cllr P Southwick
Catherine de Barnes Residents Association	-	Mr R Hogg
Chelmsley Wood Town Council	-	Cllr A Harper
Dudley MBC	-	Cllr K Turner
Elms Farm Residents Association	-	Mr L Thurstan
Fordbridge Town Council	-	Mr J Alcock
Friends of Elmdon	-	Mr S Richmond
Hampton in Arden Parish Council	-	Mr R Chapman
Hampton Society	-	Mr A Minton
Knowle Society	-	Mr J Rowley
Marston Green Residents Association	-	Mr J Stevens
North Warwickshire Borough Council	-	Councillor B Moss
Sheldon Residents Association	-	Mrs M Kennett
Solihull MBC	-	Mr P Kershaw
Solihull MBC	-	Cllr A Martin
Solihull MBC	-	Mrs B Hill

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Staffordshire County Council	- Cllr R Smith
Warwick District Council	- Cllr G B Guest
Warwickshire County Council	- Cllr L Forsyth
Wychwood Club	- Mr G Heaps

Apologies were received on behalf of: -

Bickenhill Parish Council	- Cllr R Sleigh
Birmingham City Council	- Cllr J Whorwood
British Airways Regional	- Mr P Gaiger
Consumers Association	- Mr G Weil
Coventry City Council	- Cllr N Lee
Mirfield Housing Liaison Board	- Mr A Middleton
Poolway Housing Liaison Board	- Mr L Jackson
Solihull Chamber of Commerce	- Mrs D Farley
Solihull MBC	- Mr L Osborne
Solihull MBC	- Cllr J Hawkswood
Warwick District Council	- Cllr G Guest
Wolverhampton MBC	- Cllr I Brookfield

**1. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee, held on 27 October 2004, were submitted.

**RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2004, be confirmed as a correct record.

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

**Freedom of Information Act**

Berkswell Parish Council (Cllr D Hitchcock) was of the view that the Committee should give consideration to making the minutes of the Consultative Committee public, having regard to the Freedom of Information Act.

The Secretary explained that Consultative Committee minutes were not available in the public domain at the present time as the Committee had resolved previously not to do so. Advice was also given that the Freedom of Information Act rules may not apply. The Committee were advised that a report could be considered at the next meeting to consider the implications of this issue in more detail.

**Environmental Information Regulations**

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) sought clarification of the Environmental Information Regulations which became effective on 1 January 2005, and was advised that public bodies were now required to make environmental information available to

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the public. The Airport Company had now decided to provide the quarterly environmental monitoring information report (not minutes), as reported to the ACC, via its website.

Mr Stevens also received updates from the Airport Company in relation to the report on the Airport Master Plan Review – High Level Statement on Forecasts, together with the number of “go-arounds” during the construction period for the runway resurfacing works as detailed in the minutes for the Environment Monitoring Working Group. It was ascertained that non of the reported “go-arounds” had prompted noise complaints.

With regard to the Masterplan Review: Consultation on Voluntary Compensation Schemes, the Committee noted that feedback from the overall consultation results would be reported to the ACC in the future when such information was known and had be analysed.

Bickenhill Parish Council (Cllr P Southwick) spoke with regard to the issue that had been raised by Bickenhill Parish Council at the previous meeting regarding noise insulation for chimneys. The Airport Company gave an update on the technical implications from the Company’s technical engineers who did not recommend such a scheme on health and safety grounds. However, the Airport Company undertook to make further investigations into this issue in light of further concerns being expressed by the Parish Council.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the comments arising from the Minutes of the last meeting be noted;
- (ii) That the Secretary submit a report to the next meeting of the ACC to address the issue raised by Berkswell Parish Council regarding the publication of Committee agendas and minutes; and
- (iii) That the Airport Company report back to a future meeting on the issue of noise insulation for chimneys in light of ongoing concerns from Bickenhill Parish Council.

**3. AIRPORT ACTIVITIES REPORT – OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2004**

The Airport Company presented their Airport Activities Report for the period October to December 2004. The contents of the report on the following topics were taken as read.

- Passenger, Cargo and Aircraft Movements.
- Flight Punctuality Statistics.
- Airport, Services and Commercial Development.
- Customer Services.
- Operations.
- Airport Development.
- Planning and Transportation.
- Community Relations Issues.

**Discussion Points**

Barston Parish Council (Mr D Read) spoke with regard to airport development, runway resurfacing and associated taxiway link/fast turn off works and stated that he was aware that a local resident had attempted to make a complaint about the works but was unable to get through using the recognised complaints mechanism. The Airport Company stated that they were unaware of any local complaints but would investigate the issues raised by the Parish Council if they would liaise with them with the specific details.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) stated that there was a Section 106 requirement to provide at the end of the development an anti-clockwise circulatory system when the secondary runway was used as a taxiway to afford protection to Digby Drive from excessive engine noise. There was also an agreed interim arrangement whereby aircraft

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stands 76 to 78 had been altered to allow access to and from taxiway 'V'. He questioned if and when was the interim / temporary arrangement going to revert (ie stands 76 to 78 reinstated); being concerned that taxiway 'T', between T4 and T6 was now effectively 2 way.

The Airport Company responded that the altered stands would not be reinstated and that the link between taxiway 'V' and 'T' would remain for the foreseeable future. However, it would eventually become one-way only (anti-clockwise) between T6 and T4 when the development was complete, i.e. around 2008/09" based on the extended Outline Planning Approval.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted; and
- (ii) That the Airport Company investigate the issues raised by Barston Parish Council with regard to airport developments.

**4. ENVIRONMENT MONITORING REPORT – OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2004**

The Airport Company presented their Environment Monitoring report for the period October to December 2004. The report, as submitted, was taken as read.

In presenting the report, the Airport Company advised that it was intended to invite an officer from Birmingham City Council to join the Environment Monitoring Working Group. The nominated officer would also attend meetings of the Consultative Committee.

**Discussion Points**

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) spoke with regard to Noise Control issues, particularly ground running during the morning shoulder periods and asked for further information for the period December 2004 (idle and full). It was agreed that the Airport Company would supply this information for inclusion in the minutes.

Mr Stevens also spoke with regard to complaints relating to aircraft activity and expressed concerns with regard to the figures for off-track flying during October and December 2004 and, more specifically, over the areas of Knowle and Balsall Common. The Airport Company acknowledged the concerns raised and stated that specific information with regard to off-track flying would be included within the Annual Report.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted;
- (ii) That the Airport Company supply information regarding engine ground running during the morning shoulder periods for the period December 2004; and
- (iii) That the Committee approve an officer from Birmingham City Council being invited to join the Environment Monitoring Working Group and to also attend meetings of the Airport Consultative Committee.

*(post meeting note re: Resolved (ii) above – December 2004  
Idle:3 Full: 2)*

**5. ENVIRONMENT MONITORING WORKING GROUP**

The Chairman of the Environment Monitoring Working Group invited the Committee to receive both the minutes of the meeting held on 5 January 2005, together with his report. The minutes and report were taken as read with no subsequent discussions or comments.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the minutes and report be noted.

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

The Chairman of the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Sub-Committee invited the Committee to receive both the minutes of the meeting held 11 January 2005, together with his report. The minutes and report were taken as read.

**Discussion Points**

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) spoke with regard to modal share and asked if the Airport Company were able to give an updated position. The Airport Company stated that they were unable to confirm the information at the present time but would report back to the either the next meeting, or as soon as the information became available.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the minutes and report be noted.

**7. MASTERPLAN PLAN REVIEW – UPDATE – HIGH LEVEL STATEMENT OF INTENT**

The Airport Company gave a visual presentation with regard to the Airport Masterplan Review - High Level Statement of Intent. The presentation and information considered by the Committee was taken as read.

**Discussion Points**

Staffordshire County Council (Cllr R Smith) acknowledged the issues detailed within the presentation, but expressed concern with regard to the actual numbers for passenger projections so far into the future, noting that there were some 35k passenger movements per day at present.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) asked when further information would be made available by the Airport Company and ascertained that the draft Masterplan would emerge during the summer.

Berkswell Parish Council (Cllr D Hitchcock) was of the view that access, blight and environmental loss issues had been omitted and also requested further information from the Airport Company on what they were doing to encourage better public transport. The Airport Company advised that they would continue to facilitate public transport as a key priority and that environmental and other issues would be taken on board and considered at an appropriate time when that level of detail was under consideration as part of this process.

Elms Farm Residents Association (Mr L Thurstan) spoke with regard to the new Airbus and asked the Airport Company if the expected such an aircraft to be operational at Birmingham. The Airport Company explained that they expected very occasional use of this aircraft at Birmingham, noting that the existing runways could cope with the aircraft although terminal logistics would be more of a problem due to its overall size.

Mr Thurstan also asked for clarification over the possibility of the extension of the existing runway and in particular the construction method over, and in the vicinity of, the A45 Coventry Road.

Hampton in Arden Parish Council (Mr R Chapman) sought clarification of the publication of information and was advised by the Airport Company that baseline environmental information would be available shortly via [www.bhx.co.uk](http://www.bhx.co.uk)

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted; and
- (ii) That a further update report be submitted to the Committee in April 2005.

**8. VOLUNTARY COMPENSATION SCHEMES**

The Airport Company submitted a detailed report which set out the initial factual summary of responses to the Airport Company's Consultation on Voluntary Compensation Schemes. The report, as submitted, was taken as read.

**Discussion Points**

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) spoke with regard to the Compensation Working Group and asked the Airport Company for information as to their remit and work to date. The Airport Company advised that the Working Group had now reported and those views had been considered in the context of the overall responses that had been received.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.

**9. BANG (BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT ANTI-NOISE GROUP) – REQUEST FOR MEMBERSHIP TO ACC**

The Secretary reported that a recent request had been received from BANG to be given membership to the ACC. The report, as submitted, was taken as read.

**Discussion Points**

The Airport Company suggested that in light of the request, and other similar requests at previous meetings, it would be feasible for the Committee to defer consideration at this time and to consider a further report at the next meeting to give the Committee more informed guidance on how groups such as BANG could have a role to play at the ACC. Comparisons would also be sought.

Hampton in Arden Parish Council (Mr R Chapman) expressed concerns over whether "lobby groups" such as BANG could actually bring anything new to the ACC. He considered that it was vitally important that they, and others, needed to demonstrate that they represented groups which were not already represented on the Committee.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) agreed with the proposed way forward but explained that consideration of the next report needed to demonstrate a balanced approach to such requests.

**RESOLVED**

That the consideration of the report be deferred until the next meeting.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2005 at 2.30pm at Diamond House.

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no additional items of business from the Committee.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.