

**BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 26 JULY 2006 AT 2.30 PM**

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Present: Mr V Astling OBE - Chairman

In attendance from Birmingham International Airport Ltd:

Mr R Heard - Managing Director.
Mr J Morris - Head of Corporate Affairs.
Mr J Wilson - Head of Community & Environment.

In attendance from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council:

Mr M Blamire-Brown - Representing the Secretary.
& Mr L Stevenson

Airport Chaplaincy	- Mrs B Hayes
Balsall Parish Council	- Cllr M Longfield
Barston Parish Council	- Cllr D Read
Berkswell Parish Council	- Cllr D Hitchcock
Bickenhill Parish Council	- Cllr D Williams
Bickenhill Parish Council	- Cllr P Southwick
Catherine de Barnes Residents Association	- Mr R Hogg
Chestnuts Neighbourhood Forum	- Mr S Degun
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	- Cllr K Turner
Kingshurst Parish Council	- Cllr B Mulready
Fordbridge Town Council	- Mr J Alcock
Friends of Elmdon	- Mr G A Davison
Hampton Society	- Mr A Minton
Knowle Society	- Mr G Masters
Marston Green Residents Association	- Mr J Stevens
NATS	- Mr S Aylott
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	- Cllr Dr T Crumpton
Smith's Wood Parish Council	- Cllr F Churchill
Solihull Chamber of Commerce	- Mrs D Fennell
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	- Mr P Kershaw

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Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	- Mr L Osbourne
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	- Mrs B Hill
Staffordshire County Council	- Cllr R Smith
Wawickshire County Council	- Cllr M Heatley

Apologies were received on behalf of: -

BA Connect Ltd	- Mr K Ilsley
Birmingham International Airport Ltd	- Mr S Hill
Birmingham City Council	- Mr G Tringham
Consumers Association	- Mr P Orton
Coventry City Council	- Cllr N Lee
Friends of Elmdon	- Mr S Richmond
Knowle Society	- Mr J Rowley
Mirfield Housing Liaison Board	- Mr A Middleton
Solihull MBC	- Cllr K Hawkins
Warwick District Council	- Cllr G Guest
Wychwood Club	- Mr G Heaps

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN - 2006/2008

The Committee were advised that Mr Viv Astling OBE had accepted an invitation made by Birmingham International Airport to continue the Chairmanship of the Committee for a further 2 year term up to 30 April 2008.

RESOLVED

That the renewed appointment of Mr Viv Astling OBE as Chairman of the Committee for a further 2 year term up to 30 April 2008 be noted.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN – 2006/2007

RESOLVED

That Mr John Stevens be elected Vice-Chairman of the Consultative Committee for 2006/2007.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

The Committee welcomed Cllr M Heatley - Wawickshire County Council, Mr G Masters - Knowle Society, Mr G A Davison - Friends of Elmdon and Mrs B Hayes - Airport Chaplaincy.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings of the Airport Consultative Committee, held on 26 April 2006 were submitted.

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RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2006, be confirmed as a correct record.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

Discussion Points

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) recalled the debate from the last meeting which related to the Noise Preferential Route (NPR) consultation from West Midlands International Airport Limited (WMIAL). The Committee were advised that representations had been made to Jones Day to the effect that the Committee had, in April, only just received details of the consultation and were therefore unable to give a formal view at that time. The Airport Company advised that the results of the consultation (which closed on 9 June 2006) were communicated to interested parties by way of a letter from Jones Day dated 6 July 2006. WMIAL had decided to implement the proposed routes.

Berkswell Parish Council (Cllr D Hitchcock) informed the Committee of his approaches, on behalf of the Parish Council, to Jones Day in relation to the NPR consultation.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report be noted.

6. AIRPORT ACTIVITIES REPORT – APRIL TO JUNE 2006

The Airport Company presented their Airport Activities report for the period April to June 2006. The contents of the report, on the following topics, were taken as read. In presenting the report, the Airport Company updated the Committee on the Masterplan and the evaluation work being done on the results of the consultation.

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

Discussion Points

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council (Cllr K Turner) spoke with regard to the fact that Cento had confirmed the plans for the next phase of the Midland Metro and he expressed concerns at the perceived impact on public transport under the Masterplan. The Airport Company spoke with regard to public transport issues in the context of the Masterplan and explained further that BIA would still keep pressing for information on timings on the Metro.

Catherine de Barnes Residents Association (Mr R Hogg) expressed his concerns over compensation issues, particularly that of the timings of the compensation scheme.

Solihull MBC (Cllr R Sleight) supported the viewpoint of Catherine de Barnes Residents Association and spoke further with regard to blight compensation. He stated that data (possibly from the Land Registry) should be audited as a matter of priority to see if property prices had become blighted due to the emerging airport proposals. This was a viewpoint regularly reinforced by residents living in the locality of the airport site. Cllr Sleight was also of the view that the Airports Voluntary Compensation Scheme should now be published. The Airport Company responded that there were still some outstanding issues for the Masterplan which needed to be resolved.

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Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield) referred to the fact that no details were forthcoming with regard to the Voluntary Compensation Scheme and asked the Airport Company for an update. The Airport Company stressed the importance of timings in considering both the Masterplan and the Voluntary Compensation Scheme.

Solihull MBC (Cllr R Sleight) again stressed that blight was a real issue whether a second runway at went ahead at Birmingham or not. Thought needed to be given to the people in Catherine de Barnes, for example, who were being affected now. The Airport Company acknowledged that they were very much aware of local concern.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) stated that more details were needed on the Airport Company's proposal for a Remote Modular Building located between the 70's and 80's Stands. The Airport Company advised the Committee that the building would be used as a "low-key" base for engineers who would perform checks on aircraft, however, exact details would need to be sought on the proposals from planning colleagues.

Berkswell Parish Council (Cllr D Hitchcock) made enquiries about the provision of work experience placements at the Airport and also drew the Committees attention to the recent activity regarding the Community Trust Fund.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report be noted.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING REPORT – APRIL TO JUNE 2006

The Airport Company presented their Environment Monitoring report for the period April to June 2006. The report, as submitted, was then taken as read. With regard to the sound insulation scheme, the Airport Company reported that 89 properties were now eligible for works in 2006/2007.

Discussion Points

Staffordshire County Council (Cllr R Smith) spoke with regard to surcharging and asked the Airport Company how much, in financial terms, a surcharge actually acquainted to. He was advised that the average figure could be around £3,000 although it depended on the aircraft type and tonnage.

Chestnuts Neighbourhood Forum (Mr S Degun) spoke with regard to the apparent high level of repertory disease for residents who lived in the locality of the airport and asked what was being done to mitigate against such statistics. The Airport Company stated that they were surprised at his question and not aware of any recent concerns or publicity and referred to information from a recent study that had been done by Birmingham University, details of which could be circulated to Mr Degun. The Airport Company also suspected that Mr Degun could have been quoting an air quality study on the M42 corridor and asked Mr Degun if he could provide further information to the Airport Company for them to respond to.

Friends of Elmdon (Mr G Davison) sought information on the flying policy for helicopters, to and from the airport site. The Airport Company stated that no helicopters were based at Birmingham apart from the Police helicopter, so any such activity was likely to be Police related.

The Knowle Society (Mr G Masters) stated that their residents association had had cause to highlight helicopter activity on a number of occasions, mainly during the night time period.

NATS (Mr S Aylott) advised the Committee that helicopter activity during the night was almost certainly Police activity.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) stated that there was a 30% increase in complaints relating to aircraft activity in the period April – June 2006 when considered in the context of the same period for 2005. Mr Stevens asked the Airport Company for their comments on this statistic. The Airport Company stated that the Airport had featured heavily in the media in the last 12 month period due to the emerging Masterplan proposals. This in itself alerted the public to the operations of the Airport, which in turn could have contributed to a raised public awareness in aircraft activity.

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Mr Stevens also sought further information from the Airport Company on the origins of "Spillage Incidents" as reported. The Airport Company advised that these were most likely to be spillages of toilet effluent from aircraft from servicing activities on the apron, in addition to spillages of fuel and hydraulic fluids and oils.

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council (Cllr K Turner) spoke with regard to recycling activities and sought further information from the Airport Company on the reported increased usage of electricity during May and June 2006. The Airport Company stated that it was likely to be down to the extensive usage of air conditioning due to the high temperatures experienced during the summer.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report be noted.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING WORKING GROUP

The Chairman of the Environmental Monitoring Working Group invited the Committee to receive both the minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2006, together with his report. The minutes and report were taken as read.

Discussion Points

The Airport Company having considered the Chairman's report, agreed that EMWG would have a revised reporting format for Night Flying Policy data as depicted in the Chairman's report.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the minutes and report be noted.

9. PASSENGER SERVICES AND SURFACE TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP

The Chairman of the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Working Group invited the Committee to receive both the minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2006, together with his report. The minutes and report were taken as read and the Committee made no observations.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the minutes and report be noted.

10. COMPLAINT FROM A RESIDENT OF KNOWLE

The Airport Company submitted a detailed report regarding the receipt of further correspondence from a resident of Knowle (Mr H) who was complaining about a historic change to a Noise Preferential Route (NPR) in 1990. The report briefly reviewed the history to the complaints and sought the Committees endorsement to a future suggested approach to any subsequent complaints. The report, as submitted, was taken as read.

Discussion Points

The Knowle Society (Mr G Masters) stated that he supported the proposals set out in the report and that, as far as he could ascertain, the complainant was not a member of the Knowle Society.

Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield) also supported the suggested way forward proposed by the Airport Company to deal with any suggested complaints.

Barston Parish Council (Cllr D Read) sought further details of the historical changes to the NPR. The Airport Company were unable to comment in any detail at the meeting in light of the fact that the changes happened some 16 years ago.

RESOLVED

(i) That the contents of the report be noted;

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- (ii) That the Committee agree with the Airport Company's suggested approach that no further correspondence be entered into with Mr H of Knowle and he be advised of that fact [with the exception that the Airport Company will respond to any future correspondence from Mr H that does not relate to the NPR issue.]

11. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REVIEW

The Committee was invited to undertake its annual membership review for 2006/2007, including that of the Committee's two Working Groups. The report, together with its appendices, was taken as read.

Discussion Points

Catherine de Barnes Residents Association (Mr R Hogg) stated that the Friends of Elmdon should be included within the membership of the Environment Monitoring Working Group.

Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield) drew the Committee's attention to the fact that a passenger representative was a member of the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Working Party and suggested that this individual should be invited to attend ACC meetings. The Committee recalled that their membership did indeed once include a passenger representative and therefore, Mr Longfield's suggestion was supported. Contact details for the representative would need to be sent to the ACC secretariat.

Smith's Wood Parish Council (Cllr F Churchill) advised the Committee that Smith's Wood Parish Council had expressed an interest to join the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Working Party sometime ago but had never been invited to a subsequent meeting.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted;
- (ii) That Friends of Elmdon and the Knowle Society being enlisted as members of the Environment Monitoring Working Group;
- (iii) That Rosemary Tyler, the passenger representative on the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Working Party, be invited to attend future meetings of the ACC subject to her contact details being made known to the ACC Secretariat;
- (iv) That Smith's Wood Parish Council be invited to be a member of the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Working Party;
- (v) That the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Working Party and the Environment Monitoring Working Group appoint their Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen for 2006/2007 at their next meetings and report those appointments back to the ACC for their information;
- (vi) That the ACC agree to review its membership again at its AGM in 2007 and the membership of its two Working Groups again in 2008 in line with the constitution.

12. CONSTITUTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE REVIEW

The Secretary submitted a report which invited the Committee to review its Constitution and its Terms of Reference for its two Working Groups. The report, together with its appendices, was taken as read. The Committee noted that the documents as presented had remained unaltered since they had been agreed in 2003 and 2002 respectively. The Committee made

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no observations aside from the fact that the membership details within the documents were now largely out of date and in need of a re-fresh.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted;
- (ii) That the Constitution and its Terms of Reference for its two Working Groups be updated in terms of membership details contained therein.

13. ANNUAL LIAISON MEETING – MANCHESTER 2006

The Committee were advised of the events of the Annual Liaison Meeting of ACC Chairman and Secretaries which, this year, was hosted by Manchester. The report was taken as read and the Committee made no observations.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report be noted.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 25th October 2006 at 2.30pm at Diamond House.