

**BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2008 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
John Morris	-	Head of Corporate Affairs
Ben Hanley	-	Environment Manager

In attendance from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council:

Mr L Stevenson	-	Representing the Secretariat
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Balsall Common Residents Association	-	Mr D Ellis
Balsall Parish Council	-	Cllr M Longfield
Barston Parish Council	-	Cllr D Read
Berkswell Parish Council	-	Cllr R Lloyd
Birmingham City Council	-	Cllr J Whorwood
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 MBC	-	Cllr K Turner
Fordbridge Town Council	-	Cllr L Sorrell
Friends of Elmdon	-	Mr G Davison
Hampton Society	-	Mr D Morgan
Kingshurst Parish Council	-	Cllr B Mulready
Knowle Society	-	Mr J Rowley
Marston Green Residents Association	-	Mr J Stevens
North Warwickshire Borough Council	-	Cllr G Sherratt
Passenger Representative	-	Mrs R Tyler

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Sheldon Residents Association	- Mrs M Kennett
Smith's Wood Parish Council	- Cllr F Churchill
Solihull Chamber of Commerce	- Mrs D Fennell
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	- Cllr A Martin
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	- Miss B Hill
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	- Mr P Kershaw
Staffordshire County Council	- Cllr R Smith
Wolverhampton City Council	- Cllr P Wilson
The Wychwood Club	- Mr G Heaps

Apologies were received on behalf of: -

Birmingham City Council	- Cllr M Byrne
Birmingham International Airport Ltd	- Mr J Wilson
Bickenhill Parish Council	- Cllr J Williams
Bickenhill Parish Council	- Cllr S Mills
Chestnuts Neighbourhood Forum	- Mr S S Degun
Citijet	- Mrs H Potts
Hampton Society (and Chairman of EMWG)	- Mr A Minton
Hampton in Arden Parish Council	- Cllr C Bowen
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	- Cllr Dr T Crumpton
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	- Mr L Osbourne
Warwick District Council	- Cllr G Guest
Warwickshire County Council	- Cllr M Heatley

**1. WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chairman and the Committee welcomed Paul Kehoe, Chief Executive Officer of Birmingham International Airport to his first meeting. Mr Kehoe invited the Committee to participate in a short question and answer session before the formal business of the meeting.

**2. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee, held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2008 were submitted.

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**RESOLVED**

That the Minutes be confirmed as a correct record. There were no matters arising.

**3. AIRPORT ACTIVITIES REPORT – JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2008**

The Airport Company presented their Airport Activities report for the period July to September 2008. The contents of the report, on the following topics, were taken as read:

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

**Discussion Points**

The Consumers Association (Mr P Orton) – spoke with regard to Aviation Market Development and asked if the Airport Company was going to set itself targets for new business. The Airport Company explained that a cautious approach was needed in going out to the market and winning routes that people would use given the current economic climate. The Airport Company stated that there was a very clear commitment to bring about new routes to Birmingham.

Mr Orton asked if the Airport Company had got the correct levels of marketing publicity in place. The Airport Company explained that BIA currently had routes to 140 destinations and the airline operators were expected to (and best placed to) market those routes and finance the costs of commercial promotion.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) - sought further information on the North Solihull Business Forum which was made reference to in the Community and Environment section of the report. The Airport Company explained the history and role of the Forum.

The Airport Company – added that the latest modal share data was now available. The figures stood at 23% for passengers, the highest percentage ever. The figures for employee's was reported as 22.8%, slightly down since the last reporting period.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.

*[Post meeting note – The Airport Company have provided information to reflect that Section 4 of the report – Flight Punctuality Statistics, the July to Sept 2008 average delay figures for Terminal 1 Charter Flights should have read 25 minutes and not 192 minutes.]*

**4. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING REPORT – JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2008**

The Airport Company presented their Environment Monitoring Report for the period July to September 2008. The report, which set out the following key headings, was taken as read:-

- Noise Control.

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

**Discussion Points**

Fordbridge Town Council (Cllr L Sorrell) – asked the Airport Company for comment on fuel jettison procedures from aircraft as he had heard of an alleged incident of an aircraft on route from Birmingham to Coventry which had cause to jettison fuel. The Airport Company explained that they had no information about such an alleged incident but would be happy to investigate it further if more specific details and dates could be provided. They elaborated further that normal aviation fuel jettison policies would stipulate that such activities would normally take place when aircraft were flying over the sea.

Dudley MBC (Cllr K Turner) – spoke with regard to the figures reported for off-track flying within Section 4 - Community Complaints element of the report. The Airport Company gave further details of the reported off-track complaints and stated that more often than not, after investigation, many instances were discovered to be within the noise preferential route (NPR).

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) – referred to Section 1.5 of the report, Engine Ground Running, and sought clarification on the reported numbers for Ryan Air operations. The Airport Company clarified that the two additional reported flights would be full revenue paying flights, rather than just using Bhx as a maintenance facility. This would be in addition to the four Ryan Air operations based at Bhx presently.

The Airport Company also spoke with regard to the future relationship with Ryan Air in terms of their aspirations for future growth at Bhx but emphasised that the airlines expectations for the future were still yet to be clarified.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.

**5. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING WORKING GROUP**

The Committee was invited to receive the Minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2008. The Minutes and Chairman's report, presented by Mr D Ellis, were taken as read.

The Committee was advised of the history to a number of complaints (29 in total) that had been submitted by one individual from Warwick since 2002 relating to noise and pollution. Due to the emerging history of the matter, the Airport Company now proposed to log and record any subsequent complaints but not to enter into any further correspondence. The Committee's endorsement to this approach was sought.

Information was also brought to the attention of the Committee in relation to Noise Action Planning. The Committee were invited to endorse the suggested approach that EMWG was the appropriate forum to engage with the Airport Company on the Draft Noise Action Plan.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the contents of the Minutes and report be noted;

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- (ii) That the Committee agree that EMWG is the appropriate forum to engage with the Airport Company on the Draft Noise Action Plan; and
- (iii) That the Committee support the future approach by the Airport Company detailed in the Chairman's report in relation to the complainant from Warwick.

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

The Chairman of the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Working Group, Cllr M Longfield, invited the Committee to receive both the Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2008, together with his report. The Minutes and report were taken as read with no subsequent discussion.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report and Minutes be noted.

**7. PROPOSED RUNWAY EXTENSION – PROGRESS REPORT**

The Airport Company presented its seventh report seeking to update the Committee on the progress made thus far regarding the proposed Runway Extension. Specific emphasis in this report was made towards Planning Process Issues.

[It was recorded that Cllr A Martin (Solihull MBC) declared an interest in this report in terms of his role as Vice-Chairman of Solihull MBC's Planning Sub-Committee. Cllr Martin spoke only to give information in relation to the planning application process and did not exercise any vote in relation to the decisions taken. Councillor Martin left the meeting before the debate on this item had been concluded.]

**Discussion Points**

Berkswell Parish Council (Cllr R Lloyd) – sought clarification as to when the planning conditions and the Section 106 Agreement would be finalised. The Airport Company explained that such timescales were driven by the Local Planning Authority. Cllr Lloyd proposed that the Local Planning Authority should be encouraged to convene an early meeting with Residents Associations and Parish Councils to discuss those two elements of the planning application process. Mr P Kershaw (Solihull MBC) agreed to make those representations to the Local Planning Authority on behalf of the Committee\*.

*[\*Post meeting note – the ACC Secretariat also wrote to the Local Planning Authority on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at alert them to the request proposed by Cllr Lloyd.]*

Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield), Catherine de Barnes Residents Association (Mr R Hogg) and Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) – stated that they all supported the above suggestion as it was in the best interests of local communities.

Dudley MBC (Cllr K Turner) – sought clarification on the availability of key documentation that would need to be made available to Residents Associations and Parish Councils prior to such a meeting taking place, namely a draft Section 106 Agreement/Heads of Terms etc. The Airport Company emphasised that the Local Planning Authority would need to be requested to disclose the details of the Section 106 Agreement. Members were reminded that details of the proposed draft Heads of Terms had previously been reported to the Committee.

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Berkswell Parish Council (Cllr R Lloyd) – stated that the earlier consultation responses would need to be considered and aligned with the Heads of Terms to help set the agenda for the meeting.

Passenger Representative (Mrs R Tyler) – sought clarification with regard to the general procedure for the planning consent, planning conditions and the Section 106 Agreement. In response, Mr P Kershaw (Solihull MBC) elaborated on the involvement and composition of the Council's Airport Working Party which had agreed a number of themed meetings to inform the determination of the planning application.

The Consumers Association (Mr P Orton) – spoke in opposition to the above and stated that he was of the view that the planning application process was now a matter for the Airport Company and the Local Planning Authority and that the Consumers Association did not support any further involvement.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the majority of the Committee agree that the Local Planning Authority be encouraged to convene an urgent meeting with Residents Associations and Parish Councils to discuss the Section 106 Agreement and Planning Conditions elements of the planning application process.

**8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Airport Company drew the Committee's attention to an update on the KAP 725 Working Party and brought Members up to date in terms of recent developments. Cllr Kelsey (Coventry City Council) had now been invited to join that Group and the Committee's endorsement to that was sought.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted; and
- (ii) That Cllr Kelsey's inclusion in the membership of the KAP 725 Working Party be endorsed.

**9. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 25 February 2009 with subsequent meetings being held on 20 May 2009, 9 September 2009 and 25 November 2009.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.