

**BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY 28 JULY 2004 AT 3.00 PM**

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**(ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING)**

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

In attendance from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council:

Mr M Blamire-Brown - Representing the Secretary  
and Mr L Stevenson

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  
Birmingham City Council - Cllr J Whorwood  
Birmingham City Council - Cllr M Byrne  
Catherine de Barnes Residents Association - Mr G Breatnach  
Consumers Association - Mr G Weil and Mr B Yates  
Fordbridge Town Council - Mr J Alcock  
Friends of Elmdon - Mr S Richmond  
Hampton in Arden Parish Council - Mr R Chapman  
Knowle Society - Mr J Rowley  
NATS - Mr S Williamson  
Marston Green Residents Association - Mr J Stevens  
Mirfield Housing Liaison Board - Mr A Middleton  
North Warwickshire Borough Council - Councillor B Moss  
Poolway Housing Liaison Board - Mr L Jackson  
Sheldon Residents Association - Mrs M Kennett  
Solihull MBC - Mr L Osborne  
Solihull MBC - Mr J Rollinson

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Solihull MBC	- Mr M Hooker
Solihull MBC	- Cllr A Martin
Solihull MBC	- Cllr J Hawkswood
Warwick District Council	- Cllr G Guest
Wychwood Club	- Mr G Heaps

Apologies were received on behalf of: -

Bickenhill Parish Council	- Cllr R Sleigh
Birmingham International Airport	- Mr W Heynes
Birmingham City Council	- Cllr M Nangle
Dudley MBC	- Cllr K Turner
Passenger Representative	- Mr A Pritchard
Smiths Wood Parish Council	- Cllr F Churchill
Solihull Chamber of Commerce	- Mrs D Farley
Staffordshire County Council	- Cllr R Smith
T&GWU	- Mr J Partridge
Warwickshire County Council	- Cllr L Forsyth
Wolverhampton MBC	- Cllr I Brookfield

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Consultative Committee noted the appointment of three new Members for 2004/2005; Cllr K Turner – Dudley MBC; Cllr Hawkswood – Solihull MBC and Cllr B Guest – Warwick DC. The Committee also noted that Mr A Pritchard had now retired as Passenger Representative. In addition, the Chairman also introduced Mr B Yates, Chairman of the Consumers Association who was attending the meeting as an observer.

**2. CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE ACC – 2004/2006**

The Consultative Committee noted that Mr Viv Astling had accepted an invitation from the Airport Company to continue his role as Chairman of the ACC until 31 April 2006.

**RESOLVED**

That the appointment of Mr Viv Astling as Chairman of the ACC until 31 April 2006, be noted.

**3. VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE ACC - 2004/2005**

A nomination was proposed and seconded to appoint Mr Alan Middleton as Vice-Chairman of the ACC for 2004/2005.

**RESOLVED**

That Mr Alan Middleton be appointed Vice-Chairman of the ACC for 2004/2005.

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**4. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee, held on 28 April 2004, were submitted.

**RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2004, be confirmed as a correct record.

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

**Community Trust Fund** – Mr Richard Heard advised the Committee that extra funding in the sum of £5,000 had been made available to the Trust Fund, following concerns that had been highlighted at the last meeting - (Minute 4). This information was welcomed by the Committee.

**RESOLVED**

That the update arising from the last meeting be noted and welcomed.

**6. AIRPORT MASTER PLAN REVIEW**

The Airport Company presented a detailed progress report in relation to the Airport Master Plan Review. The report, which gave a thorough update as to the current position, was taken as read.

**Discussion Points**

**Mirfield Housing Association** (Mr A Middleton) thanked the Airport Company for their recent meeting with the local community to explain the Master Plan Review topic to residents.

**Marston Green Residents Association** (Mr J Stevens) stated that the "Birmingham Alternative" had suggested that Government forecasts were led primarily by passenger demand numbers, which disguised the real measure of available runway capacity, both in total and at peak times. Advice was sought from the Airport as to whether this was still their position going into the evaluation studies. Mr Stevens also stated that the Airport Company's alternative proposal appeared to suggest that the second runway requirement was key to growth by virtue of utilising more aircraft to grow passenger numbers, rather than anticipating increases in aircraft size. Information available for 2003 suggested that aircraft of 100 seat capacity or less, accounted for perhaps 50% to 60% of capacity. Therefore, it was questioned that was this not an indicator that significant increases could be seen in forecast aircraft movements over the next 5-15 year period, both as the basis of the long term Master Plan development and the shorter term 2008-09 terminal developments.

Mr Stevens questioned whether the Committee would be seeing any new passenger numbers and/or ATM forecasts before the draft phases of the Master Plan in mid 2005 or as supporting statements to the phased scheme of terminal development. The various studies that had been commissioned, particularly the runway definition, airfield and terminal development issues made no reference to the layout proposed in the BIA alternative submission. Information was sought as to what relationship were the physical layout studies likely to have to the Government accepted plan. BIA advised that information on ATM's would be made known as soon as BIA could do so.

With regard to the DfT "Guidance on the preparation of Airport Master Plans", explanations were sought and given by BIA on the terminology and content of Para's 16, 28 and 30.

**Hampton in Arden Parish Council** (Cllr R Chapman) highlighted his concerns with regard to public safety zones (PSZ). He referred to future studies and sought information from BIA as to whether or not there was any intention to publish any future study findings outside of the Master Plan Review. The Airport Company reiterated PSZ guidelines in the context of any proposals for a new runway.

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Berkswell Parish Council (Cllr D Hitchcock) asked BIA if copies of the report relating to Cartographical, Topographical and Obstacle Surveys could be made available to the Committee. The Airport Company invited any Member who wished to see the report to contact the Secretary who would arrange with BIA for the Surveys to be sent out.

Solihull MBC (Cllr A Martin) sought views on whether any Government "interference" was anticipated with the preparation of the Master Plan.

Catherine de Barnes Residents Association (Mr G Breatnach) referred to the DfT "Guidance on the preparation of Airport Master Plans", and explanations were sought and given by BIA on the terminology and content of Para 32.

Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield) spoke with regard to operations at Coventry Airport.

Warwick District Council (Cllr G Guest) also recalled operations at Coventry Airport.

Berkswell Parish Council (Cllr D Hitchcock) spoke with regard to public transport and was of the view that speed was essential for any successful service provision, especially rail. He expressed concern at the slow development of the West Coast Main Line. It was noted that BIA were facilitators of public transport and not developers.

Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield) stated that there was a slow increase in passenger numbers resultant from public transport, mainly rail. It was considered that motorway surface access was an area in need of improvement.

The Airport Company updated the Committee with regard to compensation and mitigation schemes. It was noted that the Voluntary Compensation Scheme for BIA would commence on 29 July and would conclude on 29 October 2004. The Committee were advised that each Member would receive a copy of the scheme.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) asked if there was likely to be a second issue of the Community Newsletter as the last one had been in February 2004. Information on the overall strategy of the publication was also sought. Emphasis was given on the need to communicate with the local community, especially as Master Plan issues emerged and it was established that the Community Newsletter would continue.

Hampton in Arden Parish Council (Cllr R Chapman) sought advice on the "ownership" of the Master Plan – i.e. was the Master Plan solely the property of BIA.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the contents of the report and the current position in respect of the Master Plan Review be noted, and;
- (ii) That further reports be submitted to future ACC meetings.

**7. AIRPORT ACTIVITIES REPORT – APRIL TO JUNE 2004**

The Airport Company presented their Airport Activities Report for the period April to June 2004. The contents of the report were taken as read, which made specific reference to the following topics together with the news of the introduction of the BMI Baby service from BIA:

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

**Discussion Points**

Solihull MBC (Cllr A Martin) sought clarification on customer services and service level monitoring information contained within the report.

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The Consumers Association (Mr G Weil) spoke in relation to small airlines in financial difficulty which could leave passengers stranded. He asked if anything could be done to warn passengers of airlines in potential financial difficulty.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) asked if there was any intended aircraft engineering activities associated with the introduction of the BMI Baby service from BIA. It was noted that the maintenance of BMI aircraft would be carried out at East Midlands Airport for the time being.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.

**8. ENVIRONMENT MONITORING REPORT – APRIL TO JUNE 2004**

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

**Discussion Points**

Barston Parish Council (Mr D Read) sought information as to why BIA was still being used for military flights and established that it was due to the fact that BIA was near to regional hospitals with specialist military injury units.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) asked for further information on the apparent imbalance of runway usage between R15 and R33. It was established that runway utilisation was primarily down to weather/climatic conditions.

Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield) sought information on the monthly complaints statistics and, in particular, the history to one individual complainant with regard to routes out of BIA since 1991 and consequent alleged aircraft noise.

(In addition to the report, it was noted that BIA intended to publish their Annual Environment and Community Report for 2003/2004 shortly (mid to late August).

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.

**9. 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 7 July 2004, together with his report. The minutes and report were taken as read with no ensuing discussions.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the minutes and report be noted.

**10. PASSENGER SERVICES AND SURFACE TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Sub-Committee invited the Committee to receive both the minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2004, together with his report. The minutes and report were taken as read.

**Discussion Points**

The Chairman (Cllr M Longfield) referred to the title of the meeting and requested that consideration be given to the deletion of the word "sub".

Hampton in Arden Parish Council (Cllr R Chapman) made the point that the meeting needed to have a clear focus that it reported to ACC and was not a committee in its own right. By deleting the word "sub" out of its title could cause confusion.

(It was the general view of the Committee that the title of "Working Group" should be adopted to give consistency with the other ACC working group, EMWG).

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Barston Parish Council (Mr D Read) raised the point of a recent experience of poor customer service with regard to the Immigration Control at BIA, mainly attributed to the vast number of passengers attempting to use the service on one occasion. The Committee requested that the Secretariat write to the Immigration Service to raise the concerns that had been highlighted at the meeting.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the contents of the minutes and report be noted;
- (ii) That with immediate effect, PSST be known as Passenger Services and Surface Transport Working Group;
- (iii) That the Constitution and Terms of Reference be amended accordingly to reflect the new title;
- (iv) That representations the made by the Secretariat to the Immigration Service.

*[post meeting note – copy of correspondence to the Immigration Service and their response is available from the Secretariat upon request.]*

**11. MEMBERSHIP REVIEWS AND MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

The Consultative Committee received a detailed report which invited them to consider and review a number of issues that had arisen during the past year which had been referred to this meeting for debate and consideration. The report, as submitted, was taken as read.

**(a) Membership of the ACC – Annual Review**

The Committee was invited to approve the membership of ACC for a further 12 month period.

**(b) Council for the Protection of Rural England Warwickshire Branch (CPRE) – Request for Membership**

The Committee was invited to consider a request from the CPRE to be included in the membership of the ACC. It was noted that BIA raised no objection to the request.

**(c) EMWG and PSST – Membership Review**

The Committee was invited to approve the membership of EMWG and PSST for a further 2 year period.

**(d) PSST – Request for Additional Member from Bickenhill Parish Council**

The Committee was invited to give consideration to a request that Bickenhill Parish Council should be given an additional seat on ACC.

**(e) BIA Community Trust Fund – Trustee Term of Office**

The Committee were invited to consider the length of the term of office for Trustees to the BIA Community Trust Fund from date of appointment.

**(f) ACC Meeting Start Times**

Consideration was invited to a request put by Cllr M Longfield that ACC meetings should commence at 2.30pm rather than 3.00pm.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That the membership of ACC be endorsed for a further 12 month period and be reviewed again at the next AGM in 2005.
- (ii) That the request for membership to the ACC by the CPRE (Warks Branch) be unanimously not supported on the grounds that CPRE are perceived to be a campaigning group and their inclusion would bring no real benefit to the

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ACC as persons having an interest in the countryside affected by and in the locality of BIA are already well represented.

- (iii) That EMWG and PSST membership be endorsed for a further 2 year period (for review at AGM in 2006) subject to; Cllr M Byrne, Birmingham City Council, transferring from EMWG to PSST; Hampton Parish Council being included in the membership for EMWG with nominations being given to the Secretary of EMWG; and that Cllr Sleight be recorded as being the representative for Bickenhill Parish Council on PSST.
- (iv) That the request to allow Bickenhill Parish Council a further seat on ACC be approved and the Secretariat invite a further nomination.
- (v) That a decision regarding the term of office for the Trustees of the BIA Community Trust Fund be deferred at a later meeting for further information; and
- (vi) That future meetings of ACC commence at the earlier time of 2.30pm.

**12. INFORMATION ITEM - ACC ANNUAL MEETING OF CHAIRMEN AND SECRETARIES**

The Committee was advised of this years Annual Meeting of ACC Chairmen and Secretaries, held recently in Bristol. The report, as submitted, was taken as read.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.

**13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 27 October 2004 at 2.30pm at Diamond House.

**14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Airport Company advised the Committee of issues surrounding pre-submission consultation in the context of the requirements of the Section 106 Agreement and proposals for the planned extension of the departures lounge.

**RESOLVED**

That the contents of the report be noted.