

**BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 23 MAY 2007 AT 2.30 PM**

BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 23 MAY 2007 AT 2.30 PM

Present: Mr Viv Astling OBE (Chairman).

In attendance from Birmingham International Airport Ltd:

Mr J Kelly	-	Acting Managing Director.
Mr J Wilson	-	Head of Community & Environment.
Mr S Hill	-	Head of Planning & Transportation.
Mr J Morris	-	Head of Corporate Affairs

In attendance from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council:

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

Balsall Common Residents Association	-	Mr D Ellis
Balsall Parish Council	-	Cllr M Longfield
Barston Parish Council	-	Cllr D Read
Berkswell Parish Council	-	Mrs K Howles
Bickenhill Parish Council	-	Cllr J Williams
Birmingham City Council	-	Cllr M Byrne
Birmingham City Council	-	Cllr J Whorwood
Birmingham City Council	-	Mr G Tringham
Catherine de Barnes Residents Association	-	Mr C Boxall
Chestnuts Neighbourhood Forum	-	Mr S S Degun
Consumers Association	-	Mr P Orton
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	-	Cllr K Turner
Fordbridge Town Council	-	Mr J Alcock
Friends of Elmdon	-	Mr G A Davison
Hampton in Arden Parish Council	-	Cllr C Bowen
Hampton Society	-	Mr P Adams
Knowle Society	-	Mr J Rowley
Marston Green Residents Association	-	Mr J Stevens
NATS	-	Mr R Moon

**BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 23 MAY 2007 AT 2.30 PM**

North Warwickshire Borough Council	-	Cllr G Sherratt
Passenger Representative	-	Mrs R Tyler
Smithswood Parish Council	-	Cllr F Churchill
Solihull Chamber of Commerce	-	Mrs D Fennell
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	-	Cllr A Martin
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	-	Mrs B Hill
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	-	Mr P Kershaw
Wychwood Club	-	Mr G Heaps

Apologies were received on behalf of: -

BA Connect Ltd	-	Mr K Ilsley
Catherine de Barnes Residents Association	-	Mr R Hogg
Hampton Society	-	Mr A Minton
Mirfield Housing Liaison Board	-	Mr A Middleton
Sandwell MBC		Cllr Dr T Crumpton
Solihull MBC	-	Cllr R Sleigh
Solihull MBC	-	Mr L Osborne
Staffordshire County Council	-	Cllr R Smith
Warwickshire County Council	-	Cllr M Heatley
Warwick District Council	-	Cllr G Guest

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOMES

In opening the meeting, the Chairman referred to a letter from Cllr B Moss, North Warwickshire Borough Council, advising the Committee that he had stepped down as North Warwickshire's ACC representative. Cllr G Sherratt would be his successor.

Mr C Bowen, Mrs K Howles and Cllr A Martin were also welcomed to their first meeting.

RESOLVED

That the Secretariat send a letter on behalf of the Committee to Cllr B Moss to acknowledge his contributions to the work of the Committee and to wish him well for the future.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee, held on 28 February 2007 were submitted.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 28 February 2007, be confirmed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) highlighted that in relation to the Minute 6 - Environmental Monitoring Report – October to December 2006, a “supporting information pack” had been circulated, although this had not been referred to in the preamble of the minute.

RESOLVED

That the matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting be noted and endorsed.

4. AIRPORT ACTIVITIES REPORT – JANUARY TO MARCH 2007

The Airport Company presented their Airport Activities report for the period January to March 2007. The contents of the report, on the following topics detailed below, were taken as read:

- 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

Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield) stated that the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Working Group had highlighted concerns regarding the length of time that passengers have had to wait to collect their luggage. The Airport Company explained the logistics of “ground handling” and explained that BIA had more handling agents per 1M passengers than Gatwick. BIA also operated a £750k incentive scheme to seek to improve the service that passengers got.

Marston Green Residents Association (Mr J Stevens) referred to “Airport Noise and Vortex Programmes”, and in particular the Sound Insulation Scheme Works. He enquired as to where the 56 eligible properties were located. The Airport Company advised that they were mostly located within Birmingham, towards the north of the Airport site, although some were located just north of the A45 Coventry Road. In any event, all eligible properties were located within the 63 dB(A) noise contour.

With regard to “Transportation”, Mr Stevens sought clarification on the different format being used for monitoring surface access issues and public transport mode shares. The Airport Company explained the changes in the process in line with the new Airport Surface Access Strategy.

Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield) noted the overall Public Transport Modal Share for 2006 was 20.2%. The Airport Company recalled the Government White Paper target of 25% by 2012 but reported that BIA had ambitions to improve the % modal share sooner by way of more challenging targets.

The Airport Company also informed the Committee of the evident parking problems prior to the meeting in the NCP Car Park normally used by the Committee Members who travelled by car. The car park, on this occasion, was full and the Airport Company apologised for the inconvenience caused and for any shortcomings in the levels of customer service offered from NCP staff.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report be noted.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING REPORT – JANUARY TO MARCH 2007

The Airport Company presented their Environment Monitoring report for the period January to March 2007. The report, together with the Supporting Information Pack, were then taken as read.

In presenting the report, the Airport Company drew the Committees attention to the “Airport Awards Good Track-Keepers” in which BIA had held a recent awards ceremony to award its airlines for strong or improved track-keeping performance over the last 12 month period.

Discussion Points

Catherine de Barnes Residents Association (Mr C Boxall) asked for clarification on the difference between Runway 33 and Runway 15. The Airport Company explained that R33 was “take-off” towards Solihull and R15 was towards Birmingham.

Passenger Representative (Mrs R Tyler) spoke with regard to “Community Complaints” and noted that noise complaints had increased this year to 368 as opposed to 295 for last year. She enquired to see if this rise could be attributable to Military flights. The Airport Company stated that this could be the case as the Military did indeed operated older and noisier aircraft. The Airport Company agreed to look into this specific question in more detail and report back.

Solihull MBC (Cllr A Martin) referred to “Surface Water” and, in particular the section of the report which dealt with details of significant incidents. Further information was sought on the spillage of diesel oil which occurred in the Airports Engineering Base on the 16th of March 2007. The Airport Company explained that the spillage, which reached the Hatchford Brook, was dealt with by Airport staff with the Environment Agency in attendance. Cllr Martin asked the Airport Company to check the location of the spillage as there was some doubt in his mind that the incident had actually reached “Low Brook” rather than “Hatchford Brook”.

Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield) spoke with regard to monitoring procedures for spillages. The Airport Company undertook to provide further information on the systems in place to prevent, monitor and deal with spillages.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report be noted.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING WORKING GROUP

The Chairman of the Environmental Monitoring Working Group (EMWG) invited the Committee to receive both the minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2007, together with his report. In presenting his report, he again congratulated the Airport Company on the new reporting format of the Environment Monitoring Report and its supporting documents.

Discussion Points

Dudley MBC (Cllr K Turner) asked the Committee to recognise the involvement of Air Traffic Control in relation to a recent low flying incident, together with their contributions at a subsequent meeting of EMWG.

NATS (Mr R Moon) thanked the Committee for their comments and stated that he would pass them onto the Controller who had dealt with the incident.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the minutes and report be noted.

**BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 23 MAY 2007 AT 2.30 PM**

7. PASSENGER SERVICES AND SURFACE TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP

The Chairman of the Passenger Services and Surface Transport Working Group invited the Committee to receive the minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2007, together with his report. The minutes and report were taken as read.

The Chairman reiterated that the Working Group were still hopeful of meeting with the Airport Police to discuss the issue of getting better access via the road network in light of concerns which had been raised at a previous meeting.

Discussion Points

Catherine de Barnes Residents Association (Mr C Boxall) asked whether or not the Public Transport Modal Share included taxis in the 25% 2012 target. The Airport Company advised that it did not.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the minutes and report be noted.

8. PROPOSED RUNWAY EXTENSION - UPDATE

At the last meeting of the ACC, it had been agreed that the Airport Company would provide regular progress reports on the work to prepare a Planning Application for the proposed runway extension. The Airport Company reported on a number of key headlines and project work streams:-

- Air Traffic Forecasts.
- Air Traffic Routes.
- Economic Impact Assessment.
- Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Noise Contours.
- Transport Assessment.
- Health Impact Assessment.
- Legal Advice and Support.
- New Air Traffic Control Tower.
- Scheme Design.
- Obstacles.
- Project Management and Coordination.

Discussion Points

Passenger Representative (Mrs R Tyler) added that two meetings so far had taken place of the Health Impact Assessment Steering Group and its Terms of Reference had been set. Tenders were due to be evaluated at the next meeting.

Balsall Parish Council (Cllr M Longfield) enquired as to why the A45 Coventry Road could not be tunnelled under the extended runway in its present location, rather than a tunnelled realignment as proposed. The Airport Company explained that this would have significant cost and engineering implications and, in any event, the new runway boundary had to be re-sited to accord with the necessary regulations.

Catherine de Barnes Residents Association (Mr C Boxall) stated that an extended runway could mean closer and lower flights across residential areas. The Airport Company acknowledged this concern and stated that full details would emerge at the appropriate time.

The Hampton Society (Mr P Adams) asked how the current infrastructure would could i.e would there be a need to provided additional car parking. The Airport Company advised that further car parking provision had already been approved, pending future construction. The issue was, for the Airport, to ensure that car park numbers and capacity were correct in the context of the Modal Share.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted; and
- (ii) That a further report be submitted to the next meeting.

9. HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT UPDATE

A brief update was given on the progress of the Health Impact Assessment.

Discussion Points

Passenger Representative (Mrs R Tyler) added that the 24th of May was a key date insofar as selecting Consultants.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the update be noted.

10. BIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE NIGHT FLYING POLICY 2007

The Airport Company submitted a detailed report which advised the Committee that under the terms of the Section 106 Agreement, the final biennial review of the Night Flying Policy was required to take place by 25 October 2005.

However, it had been agreed that the Night Flying Policy be further reviewed on a biennial basis with the next review scheduled to take place before 27 October 2007.

The Airport Company considered that the Night Flying Policy was working successfully and that the current limits be retained. The Environment Monitoring Working Group had also considered this issue and had concurred with the recommendations of the Airport Company, subject to ACC ratification.

Discussion Points

There were no discussion points arising from the report.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the content of the report be noted; and
- (ii) That the ACC endorse the proposal that the current night flying limits are retained and that a reviewed Night Flying Policy be put in place by 27 October 2007.

11. BIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE ENGINE GROUND RUNNING IN THE MORNING SHOULDER PERIOD 2007

The Airport Company advised the Committee that the Engine Ground Running in the Morning Shoulder Period was required to be reviewed on a biennial basis. The last review had taken place in 2005.

For the 2007 Review, the Airport Company proposed no changes to the current arrangements. Again, the Environment Monitoring Working Group had also considered this issue and had concurred with the recommendations of the Airport Company, subject to ACC ratification.

Discussion Points

There were no discussion points arising from the report.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the content of the report be noted; and
- (ii) That the ACC endorse the proposal that the arrangements for Engine Ground Running in the Morning Shoulder Period should remain unchanged in the context of the 2007 Review .

12. PROGRESS REPORT ON ENGINE GROUND RUNNING AT IDLE SETTING DURING THE NIGHT PERIOD

The Airport Company advised Members that Solihull MBC had approved a request for a temporary relaxation of the Section 106 Obligations concerning Engine Ground Running at Night. The relaxation was in respect of undertaking noise assessments of the impact of Engine Ground Running at Idle setting for a period of up to 3 nights.

The results would be presented to Environment Monitoring Working Group on 25th July 2007 and to the ACC on 29 August 2007.

RESOLVED

That the contents of the report be noted.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting (AGM) would be held on Wednesday, 29th August 2007 at 2.30pm at Diamond House.