

EDINBURGH AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.

**MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST MEETING HELD
AT THE QUALITY HOTEL EDINBURGH AIRPORT ON MONDAY 14th
FEBRUARY 2005.**

PRESENT: Alastair S O'Neil (Chairman)
Tom Wright (Secretary)
Richard Jeffrey Managing Director EAL
Rachel Cameron Public Relations Manager BAA Scotland
Bryan Gall Passenger Interests
David Gray Airline Operators Committee
John Pennycook Community Police Officer
Bob Armour Edinburgh Airport Amenities Group
Hamish Stears Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce
Joe Henderson Kirkliston & Ratho Districts Community Council
Keith Meakin General Manager NATS
Kate MacKenzie
Cllr R Gordon Edgar Borders Council
Cllr John Longstaff City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr James Philp Fife Council
Clive Brown City of Edinburgh Council
Jane Findlay Fife Council

APOLOGIES Donal Dowds Managing Director SAL
Tom Howe Service Delivery Director EAL
Jack Munro Edinburgh & Lothians Tourist Board
James Price Fife Chamber of Commerce
Cllr Alastair Campbell Clackmannanshire Council
Cllr David Costello East Lothian Council
Cllr Shami Khan City of Edinburgh Council
Trond Haugen Fife Council

WELCOME: Chairman Alastair O'Neil welcomed those present and in particular David Gray who was representing the Airline Operators Committee and Jane Findlay of Fife Council who was deputising for Trond Haugen. The Chairman paid tribute to John Henry who had represented the STUC on the Committee and who had died on 24th December. The Chairman had written to John's widow Helen to express the Committee's condolences and to intimate that we had appreciated John's valued contribution to our meetings. The STUC are in the process of nominating a replacement for John.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15th NOVEMBER 2004: Under Welcome 'Cllr Kate MacKenzie who is representing Cramond Community Council' should read 'Kate Mackenzie who was attending at the request of the Chairman.' With this amendment the Minutes of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Meeting held at Edinburgh Airport on Monday 15th November 2004 were approved.

MATTERS ARISING: With reference to the reservations raised at the last meeting regarding the signposting at the new Multi Storey Car Park Richard Jeffrey advised that a project was ongoing to look at the signing both outside and inside of the

building. Questions were asked regarding what action was being taken to ensure that lawyers/builders advised prospective property purchasers of possible problems with aircraft noise. Nothing had been done in this respect but the airport offered to make information available to anyone who is concerned.

MANAGING DIRECTORS REPORT:

Traffic Figures: The rate of growth decreased by 2.2% from last quarter (8.2%) to this quarter (6%). Domestic traffic grew faster than international and low cost grew faster than traditional carriers. The market share split this quarter is low cost 38%, traditional 62%. The year to date passenger figures at 7,998,226 showed an increase of 7% on last years figure. With regard to the Air Transport Movements the figure of 5666 for December was queried and will be investigated. The traffic mix for the period was 38% low cost and 62% full service. Charter traffic was 4% against 96% scheduled. It is anticipated that the Charter figure will continue to decrease but not to nil.

Planning and Development: The new air traffic control tower is progressing well and is due to be operational by October 2005. The parallel taxiway extensions project has been completed and the stand 7 infill project has been completed and is now in operation. A project to centralise all car rental facilities on one site will start in the Summer of 2005 with completion by the end of the year. Construction will commence in July of a two storey pier to serve the south east apron which will be linked to the terminal departure lounges by a high level glazed connector. It will serve 5 existing aircraft stands. The value of the project is £13m. A further £5m is to be spent on various minor projects.

Route Development: 3 new routes commenced during the period October to December 2004 and Globespan are to increase their frequency on a further 7 routes. Commencing in June Continental will increase the frequency of their Newark service to 10 per week.

Onward Travel:

Taxis: A Workshop took place on 8th December to discuss the changes which will take effect from January 2006. A consultant has been employed to go through the process with the taxi trade and on the whole the response has been positive but the airport taxi operators are not happy with the proposals. The main changes are the introduction of a city taxi rank and a £1 payment barrier for all taxi journeys. It is hoped to reach a decision here as soon as possible with the changes to be introduced on 1st January 2006.

Roads: EAL intend to submit a planning application for a new airport access road from the Gogar roundabout direct to the airport at the beginning of June 2005.

Rail Link: Matters are progressing well and the submission of the parliamentary bill is scheduled for 9th May.

Tram Link: The Bill for this project is being presented to Parliament on 23rd March.

There are a significant number of issues to be resolved at the detailed stage of the Bill.

Bus: The Air Link Bus is the most used bus airport link in Europe. 21% of the airport passengers use public transport and of these 20% use the bus link.

RETAIL:

Stand 7 Development: The new World Duty Free Unit opened in early December and feedback has been positive. There have also been very good reports regarding the new food facility which opened in early January.

NOISE ROUTING AND COMPLAINTS ANALYSIS: During October 34 complaints were received compared to 1 in October 2003. The main reason for the sharp rise was the night closure maintenance programme which this year lasted for 6 weeks due to the completion of the parallel taxiways. There is now a significant increase in night flying with Royal Mail now having 7 aircraft based at Edinburgh compared to 3 in the past.

CUSTOMER FEEDBACK: The overall scores for departures and arrivals remained at 4.0 and 4.1 respectively with the MAT at the same scores. Several categories scored 5 but the Committee requested that they also be informed of the categories which did not perform well. Concerns were also raised regarding the quality of the public address system.

MASTERPLAN: The Masterplan is due for publication on 24th February. Richard Jeffrey will discuss the plan with members of the Committee at the conclusion of the meeting when maps will be available. The local MSP had put forward a motion to the Scottish Parliament to retain the Showground at its present location but the Minister responsible had advised that it would have to move by 2013 to make way for the expansion of the airport.

NOISE AND BLIGHT COMPENSATION DOCUMENT: The consultation period had now closed and the responses are being assessed. There had only been two dozen responses at Edinburgh.

EU COMMISSION ON PASSENGER RIGHTS: This highly contentious piece of legislation comes into force on 17th February. It could cause problems at the airport when customers complain although their relationship is with the airline.

G8 SUMMIT AT GLENEAGLES: This is a main event for Scotland and the airport are working very closely with the police and other authorities to ensure that every thing goes smoothly. The airport is high on the list for disruption by protesters. Tom Howe Service Delivery Director is to retire on 31st March but will stay on to manage the G8 arrangements.

FIRE SERVICE STRIKE AT GLASGOW: BAA is seeking to modernise practices at Glasgow to bring them into line with Edinburgh and Aberdeen. There is a contingency plan in operation at Glasgow and it is not anticipated that the dispute will spill over to Edinburgh.

EDINBURGH CONGESTION CHARGES: The airport supports congestion charging and we now await the result of the referendum.

AOCB: The next meeting will be held in the Quality Hotel Edinburgh Airport on Monday 16th May 2005.