

GATWICK AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Consultative Committee held on 14th July, 2005.

Present:

Mr. P.W. Bryant (Chairman)

Mr. W. Acraman - West Sussex County Council  
Mr. G. Blundell-Pound - International Air Carriers Association  
Mr. J. Brock - Burstow Parish Council  
Mr. S. Buck - ABTA  
Dr. P. Ellis - British Air Transport Association  
Mr. P. Hall - Passenger Representative  
Mrs. K. Hammond - Surrey County Council  
Mr. C. Hersey - Mid Sussex District Council  
Mr. M. Hudson (substitute) - London Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Mr. R.A. Jones - Tandridge District Council  
Mr. J. Kendall - Horley Town Council  
Mrs. E. Kitchen - Horsham District Council  
Mr. G. Larcombe - Horley and District Chamber of Commerce  
Mr. C. Lloyd - Crawley Borough Council  
Mr. J. McCall - Environmental and Amenities Group  
Mr. D. Murdoch - Crawley Borough Council  
Mrs. M. Myland - Surrey County Council  
Lt. Col. T. Pemberton - West Sussex County Council  
Mrs. D. Ross-Tomlin - Reigate and Banstead Borough Council  
Mrs. H. Sewill - Charlwood Parish Council  
Mr. J. Taylor - CADIA  
Mr. R. Thomas - East Sussex County Council  
Mr. J. Woodward-Nutt - Consumers' Association

Also present:

Mr. P. Griffiths - Managing Director, BAA Gatwick  
Mr. T. Lockwood - Director of Planning and Environment, BAA Gatwick  
Ms. S. Howells - Government and Economic Relations Manager, BAA Gatwick  
Ms. A. Huston - Department for Transport  
Mr. M. Kendall - Honorary Secretary  
Mrs. R. Howell - Technical Adviser  
Mrs. P. Street - Assistant Honorary Secretary

Apologies for absence were received from Ms. A. Coleman, Mr. N. Maltby and Mr. I. Irvine.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

1. The Committee received and noted the membership, constitution and terms of reference of the Committee and its Sub-Committees (copy attached to the signed minutes).

TOUR OF AIRPORT

2. The Committee thanked BAA Gatwick for hosting the tour of the airport which was most informative and enjoyable.

## MINUTES

3. Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting held on 21st April, 2005, be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

### General Purposes Sub-Committee

4. Resolved - That the draft minutes of the General Purposes Sub-Committee held on 16th June, 2005, be received and noted (copy attached to the signed minutes).
5. Reference was made to minute 157 regarding the Civil Aviation Bill currently before Parliament. Ms. Huston, DFT, reported that a date had now been set for the third reading of the Bill which would be on 10th October, 2005. The Chairman advised the Committee that a report would be given to the next meeting of the General Purposes Sub-Committee on those aspects of the Bill which were relevant to Gatwick Airport.
6. Reference was made to minute 155 in connection with the Crawley Air Quality Management Area. Mr. Larcombe reported that the predicted exceedances related to an area of the Horley Gardens Estate rather than just one road. This would be clarified in the minutes of the Sub-Committee meeting.

### APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

7. Resolved - That Mrs. H. Sewill be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

### APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES

8. Resolved - That the following members be appointed to serve on the respective Sub-Committees, the Noise and Track Monitoring Advisory Group and the Ground Noise Committee for the ensuing year. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman were ex-officio members of each of the Sub-Committees, the Advisory Group and the Ground Noise Committee.

#### General Purposes Sub-Committee

Mr. P. Bryant (Chairman), Mr. W. Acraman (West Sussex County Council), Mrs. E. Kitchen (Horsham District Council), Mr. J. McCall (Environmental and Amenity Groups), Mr. N. Maltby (Mole Valley District Council), Mr. J. Taylor (CADIA), Mr. D. Murdoch (Crawley Borough Council), Mr. R. Hobbs (Passenger Representative), Mrs. K. Hammond (Surrey County Council), Mrs. H. Sewill (Vice-Chairman), Ms. Coleman (International Air Transport Association) and Dr. P. Ellis (British Air Transport Association).

#### Passenger Services Sub-Committee

Mr. P. Bryant, Mrs. H. Sewill, Mr. S. Buck (ABTA) and Mr. J. Woodward-Nutt (Consumers Association).

It was also noted that the following passenger representatives, appointed by BAA Gatwick, serve on the Sub-Committee: -

Mr. M. Bone, Mrs. A. Curle, Mr. N. Gibbs, Mr. P. Hall (Chairman), Mr. R. Hobbs, Mrs. S. Langtry-White, Mrs. C. Marsh, Mr. R. Saunders and Mrs. C. Vickers.

#### Noise and Track Monitoring Advisory Group (NATMAG)

Mr. P. Bryant, Mrs. H. Sewill, Mr. W. Acraman, Mrs. E. Kitchen and Mr. R.A. Jones.

#### Ground Noise Committee

Mr. P. Bryant, Mrs. H. Sewill, Mr. W. Acraman, Mrs. E. Kitchen and Mr. R.A. Jones.

9. The Committee considered a request from Reigate and Banstead Borough Council's representative about the inclusion of the Borough Council in the membership of the General Purposes Sub-Committee, in view of the statutory obligation the authority had to monitor air quality. However, as the composition of the Sub-Committee reflected a balance of interests between the local community and the aviation industry, the Committee agreed that the representative from Reigate and Bansted Borough Council should instead be invited to attend the General Purposes Sub-Committee meeting as and when specific air quality issues for its area were being discussed.

#### AIRPORT COMMENTARY

10. The Committee received the Managing Director's commentary on activity at the airport since the date of the last meeting (copy attached to the signed minutes). Mr. Griffiths explained BAA Gatwick's 2010 Vision. He advised that BAA Gatwick had set itself a "stretch" target to achieve a passenger throughput of 40 mppa by 2010, although this did not change its stated growth forecast of achieving 40 mppa by 2012/13. Achieving the airport's Vision was going to be a challenge, particularly in respect of surface access. BAA Gatwick intended to publish a business plan of how to achieve the possible accelerated growth and this would be made available for members of the Committee.

11. Members emphasised the concerns they already had about achieving surface access modal split targets and felt that the stretch target, if achieved, would place additional pressure on the surface transport infrastructure and this needed to be addressed with the local authorities concerned.

12. Mr. Griffiths also gave an update on the existing position in respect of the Gatwick Express Service. Discussions were continuing with the DFT and more data had been requested to enable some of the suggested compromise solutions to be considered further. It was noted that the Secretary of State had asked for an update on the position before the parliamentary recess.

13. The Committee was also informed that security had been stepped up with Sussex Police at the airport and that the use of the airport perimeter road tunnel under the South Terminal was currently restricted. BAA Gatwick needed to review the access arrangements through the tunnel, as well as the other access points into the airfield.

14. Reference was made to the Fastway roadworks being undertaken in the vicinity of Longbridge roundabout and of the traffic congestion being experienced. BAA Gatwick was asked what was being done by the contractors to minimise congestion particularly at peak hours. Lt. Col. Pemberton advised that he shared concerns about the traffic congestion and gave assurances to look into the matter with West Sussex County Council to see what could be done to ease the situation.

15. Reference was also made to the signage for the Fastway services within the airport's terminals as at present the signage only directed passengers and users to buses rather than the Fastway brand. Mr. Griffiths advised that he would look into the branding issue to see if the signage could be altered.

## BAA GATWICK'S SCHEME TO PROTECT PROPERTY VALUES AND IN RELATION TO AIRCRAFT NOISE

16. Mr. Lockwood advised that BAA Gatwick hoped to publish the schemes during early August. He added that, as a result of the responses to the consultation a number of improvements had been made to the schemes. The consultant's report analysing the responses to the consultations would be made available, together with the reasons for BAA Gatwick either adopting suggested changes or otherwise. The schemes once published would be sent to those properties that would be eligible for the scheme. A further report would be given at the next meeting of the Consultative Committee.

## OUTLINE AIRPORT MASTER PLAN - CONSULTATION RESPONSE

17. The Committee considered a report by the Honorary Secretary setting out a suggested response to BAA Gatwick's consultation on the outline airport master plan (copy attached to the signed minutes).

18. The Committee was in general agreement with the suggested form of response to the Airport Master Plan consultation but felt that greater reference should be made in recommendation (1) of the Honorary Secretary's report to the need for solutions to be found to the issue of flooding and water management. Some members were of the view that there needed to be a full evaluation of the flooding and pollution issues as it was not clear from the consultation document how this would be addressed. The Committee also felt that all the issues of concern as highlighted in the report and the way in which BAA Gatwick were to address them should be incorporated into a new legal agreement.

19. The Committee remained concerned about the impact of the airport's growth on the surface access infrastructure. Even with growth to 40 mppa it was felt that the road and rail networks would not be able to cope with the additional demand without significant improvements to the networks. Mr. Griffiths recognised that securing improvement schemes with the Highways Agency and the Government/Network Rail was an immense challenge for BAA Gatwick particularly as the company did not have the authority to take forward the implementation of schemes.

20. Reference was made to the Committee's response to the DfT's SERAS consultation. Members considered it important that BAA Gatwick be reminded of the Committee's view reached at that time about the future development of Gatwick, particularly in respect of the possible construction of a second runway. With this in mind, it was felt that the suggested response to Question 2 of the consultation document needed to reflect the Committee's view in a more robust way. It was agreed therefore that greater emphasis would be given on the whether the economic and social benefits of an additional runway would outweigh the environmental damage such a development would bring.

21. As regards recommendation (5), it was suggested that BAA Gatwick, West Sussex County Council and Crawley Borough Council be requested to keep the local authorities party to the Memorandum of Understanding, as well as the Consultative Committee, fully informed of the progress being made in negotiations to roll forward the Sustainable Development Strategy commitments and the nature of the legal obligations under consideration.

22. Resolved -

- (1) That the development proposals for a one runway, two terminal airport for 2015 and 2030 be generally supported subject to issues relating to surface access, noise, air pollution, flooding and water management being satisfactorily resolved and addressed in a new legal agreement;

- (2) That, in the absence of a detailed appraisal and analysis, no further views be expressed about the possible construction of a second runway at Gatwick post 2019 beyond those made by the Committee in June 2003 (as set out in paragraphs 2.3 and 2.4 of the Honorary Secretary's report);
- (3) That subject to the incorporation of the views expressed by the Committee, the comments set out in the Honorary Secretary's report together with the responses to the questions set out in the Annex be approved and, after consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, be forwarded to BAA Gatwick as the Committee's response to the outline airport master plan consultation;
- (4) That BAA Gatwick be asked to keep the Consultative Committee informed at regular intervals of changes to the airport master plan following the close of the consultation period and prior to the publication of the final airport master plan early next year;
- (5) That BAA Gatwick, West Sussex County Council and Crawley Borough Council be asked to keep the Consultative Committee as well as the local authorities party to the Memorandum of Understanding between West Sussex County Council and Crawley Borough Council, informed of the progress being made in negotiations to roll forward the Sustainable Development Strategy commitments and the nature of the legal obligations under consideration;
- (6) That BAA Gatwick be requested to consult the Committee on details of its air quality action plan before its incorporation into the final Airport Master Plan; and
- (7) That, at a future date, a report be made to the Committee on the proposed air space changes over the South-East of England arising from the development of a second runway at Stansted.

#### SUSTAINABLE AVIATION - A STRATEGY TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF UK AVIATION

23. The Committee noted that on 20th June, 2005, a strategy entitled "Sustainable Aviation" had been produced for the aviation industry developed by UK airlines, airport operators, aircraft manufacturers and the principal air navigation service provider. The Chairman highlighted that this was the first national sustainability strategy ever produced for the aviation industry. A number of objectives and commitments had been established which a number of the interests serving on the Committee were already working towards. Mr. Griffiths advised that as the strategy set out an industry leading stance, BAA Gatwick would have to adopt sustainability standards equal to, if not better than, those given in the strategy document. Dr. Ellis, on behalf of BATA, offered a presentation on the content of, and the commitments given in, the strategy. Members welcomed the offer and asked for a presentation to be given at its next meeting in October.

#### CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2005

24. The Committee received and noted a copy of the response agreed by the General Purposes Sub-Committee to BAA Gatwick's consultation on its Capital Investment Programme 2005 (copy attached to the signed minutes). The Committee endorsed the response that had been sent.

## PASSENGER SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE

25. The Committee received a report from the Chairman of the Passenger Services Sub-Committee on the key issues discussed at its meeting on 19th May, 2005 (copy attached to the signed minutes). Mr. Hall emphasised the concerns of the Sub-Committee in relation to the temporary closure of the coach station in the South Terminal and the implications this had for passengers and the traffic on the South Terminal's forecourts. He asked BAA Gatwick to see what else could be done to improve the passenger experience during this temporary phase.

26. Mr. Hall also advised that BAA Gatwick would shortly be advertising to recruit two passenger representatives to fill the vacancies on the Sub-Committee.

## GATWICK AIRPORT ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

27. The Committee received a report by the Honorary Secretary providing background to the monitoring process and the list of items which have been put forward for independent verification this year by West Sussex County Council and Crawley Borough Council (copy attached to the signed minutes). The Committee endorsed the comments of the General Purposes Sub-Committee particularly in respect of taking forward the monitoring regime in the rolling forward of the Sustainable Development Strategy commitments and the renegotiation of the 2001 legal agreement.

28. Resolved -

- (1) That subject to the comments made in recommendation 3 below about the nature of the commitments, the current position on the annual monitoring process and selection of items identified for verification be noted;
- (2) That BAA Gatwick, West Sussex County Council and Crawley Borough Council keep the Consultative Committee informed of the outcome of the verification process;
- (3) That in taking forward the Sustainable Development Strategy commitments in the development of the airport master plan, BAA Gatwick be urged to consider the introduction of targets aimed at outcomes with milestone dates by which progress is to be made; and
- (4) That West Sussex County Council and Crawley Borough Council be advised of the Consultative Committee's views regarding the nature of the commitments to be monitored for consideration in their discussions on the rolling forward of the sustainable development strategy and the renegotiation of the legal agreement.

## DFT CONSULTATION ON NIGHT FLYING RESTRICTIONS AT HEATHROW, GATWICK AND STANSTED AIRPORTS - STAGE 2

29. The Committee considered a report by the Technical Adviser summarising the key proposals of the DFT's Stage 2 consultation on night flying restrictions at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted Airports insofar as they related to Gatwick (copy attached to the signed minutes). The Committee noted that the responses to the consultation were required by 16th September, 2005. In view of the Committee's cycle of meetings, the Secretariat had successfully sought an extension of time, until 27th September, 2005, within which to make its response. This would enable the General Purposes Sub-Committee at its meeting on 22nd September to consider and agree the form of response on behalf of the Committee.

30. Members were also pleased to note that a number of the concerns previously identified by the Committee had been incorporated into the Stage 2 consultation proposals. The Technical Adviser drew members' attention to the initial indicative comments to the questions posed in the consultation document which needed to be considered by the Committee. The Committee were in general agreement with the indicative form of response although there was some concern amongst the airline representatives about the proposed reductions in the movements limits and noise quotas for Gatwick. The airlines representatives felt that more information and consideration needed to be given to the full impact of the proposals, particularly in view of the proposed introduction of the new QC 0.25 classification of aircraft.

31. Resolved: -

- (1) That the points raised in the DfT's Stage 2 consultation on night flying restrictions insofar as they relate to Gatwick Airport and the initial indicative comments to the specific questions posed as well as the concerns by the airlines be noted;
- (2) That any suggestions for inclusion in the response from the Consultative Committee be passed to the Technical Adviser by 12th August for consideration by the General Purposes Sub-Committee; and
- (3) That the General Purposes Sub-Committee at its meeting on 22nd September be authorised to agree a response to the consultation on behalf of the Committee.

#### AIRCRAFT NOISE MONITORING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ANMAC)

32. The Committee received a report by the Vice-Chairman summarising the key issues discussed at the meeting of ANMAC held on 10th May, 2005 (copy attached to the signed minutes). Mrs. Sewill advised that she had not yet received from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister the presentation on the review of PPG24. She was therefore unable to forward more details of the review to members of the Committee. She also advised that the review of the arrivals code of practice had progressed and that a full report would be made to the next meeting of NATMAG which would feed into the next meeting of the General Purposes Sub-Committee.

#### FLIGHT EVALUATION UNIT COMMENTARY

33. The Committee considered the commentary by the Flight Evaluation Unit on the work of the Unit, headline statistics and the key points arising from the Noise and Track Monitoring Advisory Group (NATMAG) and the Ground Noise Committee meetings held on 26th May, 2005 (copy attached to the signed minutes). Members noted that the PRNAV trial for arriving aircraft had now commenced. The purpose of the trial was to ascertain whether the use of PRNAV on arrivals routes would improve CDA achievement and optimise air space management. Mr. Norman emphasised that the trial did not involve large numbers of aircraft and that the routes being flown mirrored the flight path commonly taken by aircraft on approach to Gatwick. As regards the departure routes, Mr. Norman advised that a PRNAV trial would take place later in the year.

34. Reference was made to the analysis of low flying complaints and a member suggested that in the next edition of the Flight Evaluation Unit's annual report greater detail of the number of airlines that did not adhere to the required height be included.

#### GROUND RUN PEN (GRP)

35. Mr. Ashley updated the Committee on the discussions that had taken place with the local authorities and the consultants, Ian Flindell, regarding the site options being

considered for the GRP. He advised that on balance, the sway of opinion was for a site on the south side of the runway as there was a greater net benefit than the stand 177 site option. The consultants' report into the noise attenuation benefits, as well as the disbenefits, was in the process of being finalised. A further report would be made at the next meeting.

#### CRAWLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL DIRECTOR FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING'S REPORT

36. The report from Crawley Borough Council's Director for Environment and Housing on planning applications determined in respect of Gatwick Airport since the date of the last meeting was received and noted (copy attached to the signed minutes).

#### ANNUAL MONITORING OF AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND SECRETARIES - LIVERPOOL JOHN LENNON AIRPORT - 22ND/23RD JUNE, 2005

37. Members considered the report by the Honorary Secretary summarising the key issues arising from this year's annual meeting of Airport Consultative Chairmen and Secretaries held in Liverpool on 22nd and 23rd June, 2005 (copy attached to the signed minutes). The Chairmen drew members' attention to paragraph 5 regarding the discussion on the provision of surface access schemes needed to accommodate airport growth and development as set out in the Government's White Paper. Members noted that delegates had emphasised the need for funding and the provision of additional infrastructure initiatives to be clearly led by the Government.

#### DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE AND ITS SUB-COMMITTEE

38. The Committee noted the dates of the next meetings of the Consultative Committee as follows: -

Passenger Services Sub-Committee - Wednesday, 31st August, 2005  
General Purposes Sub-Committee - Thursday, 22nd September, 2005  
Consultative Committee - Thursday, 13th October, 2005

Chairman