

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY 20th MAY 2010

Précis of minutes for publication on Airport website & Airport Notice Board

Present - 10 Members + 2 Representatives of Gloucestershire Airport

Apologies - received from 2 Members + 1 Representative of Gloucestershire Airport

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 18th February 2010 -

The minutes were approved by those present and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising -

1. The Chairman asked for an update on the Car Parking - the Airport informed the committee that there is nothing new to report and the matter is still ongoing.

Consultative Committee Matters -

The Chairman reported two changes to the committee membership -

Cllr Mark Williams was welcomed back as the Tewkesbury Borough Council representative and Cllr Tony McKinnon would now be representing the Jet Age Museum

Airport Management Matters -

Airport Development Plan:

The Airport Director reported that the Runway Safety Project was continuing to proceed well. The Project Manager had issued Tenders for the building and civil works and was confident of achieving cost certainty by June. It was anticipated work will commence in the summer of 2010 with a completion date of August 2011.

Plans for the Runway Safety Project have been submitted to Tewkesbury Borough Council for minor amendments and it is hoped that the Applications will now be dealt with as a delegated matter. If this is not possible, the Application will be reviewed at the Committee Meeting on 27 May 2010.

A delay has arisen with the plans to divert a section of the footpath by Blenheim House, which was refused by the planning inspector due to a technicality arising from an incorrect scaled map being submitted. However, after communicating with the Officer at Tewkesbury Borough Council, it is anticipated this will be resolved without any objections.

The Shareholders continue to be very supportive and work with the Airport Management to progress the Project.

Report of recent Planning Applications -

There were no major planning applications to report just an update on the ongoing -

Wind Farm - Head of Operations reported that the Wind Farm proposals continued, confusion had arisen with a letter he had sent to Tewkesbury Borough Council but apparently not received, this has now been cleared up. He further suggested that if the Radar problems could be overcome, it would not be necessary to object to the Wind Farm proposals. It was also mentioned that the AOA (Airports and Operators Association) had a working group who worked with Wind Farm Developers.

The Chairman informed the Committee that further letters had been received from private individuals raising concerns over the proposed Wind Farm at Strensham and, therefore, the Wind Farm would remain on the Agenda until the situation had been resolved.

Jet Age Museum -The representative stated that the preparations for the Jet Age Museum were progressing very slowly, although the poplar trees had been removed from the site.

Noise Complaints

The Airport Director reported that there had been 160 noise complaints since the Consultative Committee meeting held in November.

132 were from regular complainants living in Bamfurlong, Staverton and Cheltenham
7 from Churchdown; 7 from Haw Bridge Area; 2 from Ashleworth/Tirley Area; 1 from Boddington;

1 from Down Hatherley; 6 from Staverton Village; 3 from Old Cheltenham Road, Staverton;
1 from the Reddings – Balloon flight complaint

Further to the meeting held earlier in the year representatives from Down Hatherley were still waiting for a response to their concerns.

Head of Operations reported that the representative for private pilots had conducted noise and over-flying surveys at Down Hatherley Church and had volunteered to return during a weekend to continue monitoring the situation. The Airport Director reiterated that if the residents at Down Hatherley inform the Airport of any events, such as Funerals or Weddings being held at the Church, Air Traffic Control, wherever possible, would attempt to divert aircraft away from that area.

Head of Operations requested that the Flying schools and Clubs continue to remind pilots/students of the noise abatement procedures and wherever possible to avoid over-flying Down Hatherley, (some of the Helicopter Operators had already made minor changes to their routes). He also informed the Committee that a noise contouring survey has previously been conducted by Bickerdike Allen which confirmed noise levels were satisfactory.

Airport Security Situation

Crime statistics from Gloucestershire Constabulary were issued to all attendees.

A member indicated that it would be interesting to know the detection rates for those incidents reported. The Airport Director replied that he had requested the detection rates, but had not received that information.

Any Other Business

A member expressed his disappointment with the recent negative press coverage of the Runway Safety Project and suggested Bev Hawes from the local press be invited to attend one of the Airport Tours.

A member wished to convey his congratulations to the Briefing Team for their Customer Services Award from Manx2.com.

The meeting closed at 19.00

Date of next meeting: Thursday 19th August 2010 at 6 pm