

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY 21st MAY 2009

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

Present - 11 Members + 3 Representatives of Gloucestershire Airport

Apologies - received from 5 Members

The Chairman welcomed and introduced Tony Mackinnon who is the new representative for Tewkesbury Borough Council

Endorsement of existing Chairman and Vice Chairman for the year 2009-2010 -

Members proposed and seconded and all present agreed that Jennie and Harold continue as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively; both accepted.

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 21st May 2009 -

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

Matters Arising -

1. The Chairman asked for the latest news on the GPS approach - the Airport Head of Operations replied that he would contact the CAA for an update but was optimistic that it would be approved soon.

Consultative Committee Matters -

There were no Consultative Committee matters to report

Airport Management Matters -

1. Airport Development Plan:

The Airport Director updated the committee on the recent development plans, 3 of the 4 applications that had been submitted to Tewkesbury Borough Council were approved. The 4th Application (Bank View Farm) was deferred and would be resubmitted at the planning meeting being held on the 28th May 2009. An agricultural consultants report was being prepared and would be lodged in support of the Bank View Farm Application.

There were several steps that were required for the development plan:

1. Green Policy – a robust and in-depth policy, which had been verified.
2. Funding for the Project –has been agreed in principle
3. Approval of Applications – 3 out of 4 approved, Bank View Farm to go to Committee on the 28th May 2009
4. Parcel of land – Shareholders to agree on land swap

The Chairman of the Airport Board wished to record his thanks to the Airport officers for their excellent work with the Runway Safety Project.

At the next Consultative Committee Meeting it was anticipated that a timeframe for the project would be available for members, the Airport Director thought the project would be conducted over 2 years. Given the Councils schedule, the Board Chairman thought it would be unlikely that funding would be approved until September.

A Member enquired what disruption if any would there likely to be, Head of Operations responded that as most of the work would be carried out off the Airfield and disruption would be at a minimum.

Installing the ILS is likely to see some slight disruption with the lights & painting etc.

Another Member referred to the Green Policy on the website and the Air Quality Unit which is not working at the present time. The Airport Director replied that he was hoping to arrange to meet with

Cheltenham Borough Council to discuss the Air Quality Monitoring System in the near future.

At the request of an absent Member the Chairman raised the following point:

With the constraints on the Airport regarding the annual movements, is the 95k limit on movements leaving enough room for expansion? The Head of Operations responded that there was flexibility in 95k, at the present time movements were averaging 75/80k annually and Gloucestershire Airport Ltd did not envisage that amount of growth in the immediate future.

Report of recent Planning Applications -

Head of Operations reported that there were no further developments with the Wind Farm Application at Strensham.

Wilksch Airmotives (Diesel Aero Engines) were relocating from SE3 to a new hangar that is currently under construction.

The Jet Age Museum is proposing to submit their application for a 30 x 15 metre building to be sited on the West Camp near Golden Castle Caravans.

Noise Complaints

Head of Operations reported that there had been 113 noise complaints since the Consultative Committee meeting held in February:

91 from regular complainants living in Bamfurlong, Staverton and Cheltenham

13 from Churchdown; 1 from Staverton; 1 from Bamfurlong; plus 7 from outside the ATZ

He further reported that no complaints had been received from Down Hatherley this year and the Airport was doing everything possible to try and reduce the noise impact, although it would never be completely eradicated. A Hazop (Hazardous Operations) meeting had been held at the Airport to discuss ways of minimising the noise nuisance. Circuits were analysed and it was suggested that these should be smaller where possible, further reducing noise levels.

The Airport Director informed Members that the Airport would be sponsoring the Down Hatherley Cricket Club, it was hoped this would help develop the relationship locally.

It was emphasised that the Management be kept informed of any problems.

Airport Security Situation:

The Airport Director passed around to the Committee members' security data since the last meeting held in February; this had included a few minor security incidents.

It was suggested that a representative from the local police force attends the Consultative Committee. The Airport said they would investigate and keep the Chairman informed.

A Member enquired as to the Special Branch move, the reply being that this was taking longer than anticipated but they should be in place in the next few weeks. Customs would share the offices with Special Branch.

Any Other Business

1. A question had been raised in advance regarding the Navigational Lights on Chosen Hill, only 1 was working. The Airport replied that they were waiting for an update from Severn Trent but as there is no night flying from runways 22/04 or 36/18, the lights were not essential.

2. The Airport Director wished to convey his thanks to Harold and Jennie for all their help, dedication and excellent work in developing the Consultative Committee.

The meeting closed at 1900

Date of next meeting: Thursday 20th August 2009 at 6 pm

POST MEETING NOTE: The 4th planning application (Bank View Farm) was approved on the 28th May 2009