

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY 19th May 2011

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

Present - 13 Members + 2 Representatives of Gloucestershire Airport

Apologies - received from 4 Members + 1 Representative of Gloucestershire Airport

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 17th February 2011 -

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

Matters Arising –

1. **Car Parking** - An update would be included under Airport Management Matters.

2. **Airport Tenants and Users Group**

As it had been previously agreed that this Consultative Committee would be a minuting platform for this group, a general discussion took place regarding its demise. The result being the following proposals –

1. The current chairman of the group remains as caretaker of the group for the next 12 months.
2. The funds currently in the Bank are frozen with a review in 12 months time.
3. The Chairman of the Consultative Committee will then write to the Managing Directors of the Airport Tenants & Users Group outlining the situation and requesting their responses for the review.

This course of action was agreed by all.

3. **Charity Events 2011**

On Sunday 15th May 2011, a flyer forum was organized for injured/disabled service personnel; this event was very successful with 50 flights carrying 90 passengers. This may become an annual event. There was disappointment that although they had been invited, there was not any local press coverage.

An Airport Charity Open Day will be held during the summer on Sunday 3rd July 2011 to coincide with the 75th Anniversary of the Airport.

A Charity Party 1940's theme will be held on Friday 8th July 2011 - to mark the 75th anniversary of the Airport and 50 years in Aviation for the Chief Pilot of Executive Aviation Services with all proceeds going to the airport charities.

It was confirmed there will not be another car event held this year due to the Runway Safety Project.

Consultative Committee Matters -

There were no Consultative Committee Matters to report.

Airport Management Matters -

i. Airport Development Plan:

The Airport Director gave an update on the Runway Safety Project which has now commenced. All four projects have started simultaneously and should be completed within a year.

The ILS will be completed next year and progress is being made for GPS approaches, which will be a benefit to training, particularly with Filton Airport closing in 2012.

He confirmed the legal delay has now been concluded.

The declared distances for the runways were still being finalized and had not yet been confirmed.

Car Park - A site behind the Aviator car park is being made into a temporary car park. The fence line will be redesigned to provide additional car parking spaces. The new entrance road is due to be completed on the 16th July 2011.

A member enquired if Airport Management had considered charging for overnight parking for extra revenue. The Airport Director replied that charging for parking had been considered on several previous occasions but the system would be costly to introduce, difficult to monitor and some Lease Agreements have a provision for parking spaces. However, overnight parking had not been considered in isolation but will be investigated.

It was mentioned that having free parking was commercially advantageous.

ii. Environment Report

Wind Turbine

Discussions are continuing with Gloucester City Council regarding the effect the proposed Wind Turbine at Alney Island will have on the Radar system.

Green Policy

Following a review of the Airport Green Policy on Thursday 20th May 2011, The Joint Airport Scrutiny Working Group is scheduled for a Second Review of Gloucestershire Airport's Green Policy on Monday 20th June 2011 at Cheltenham Borough Council.

A member enquired if the fitting of Solar Panels on the Hangars had been considered. The Airport replied that they had been investigated on several occasions but had not been a realistic viable option, particularly as the Hangars are under different ownerships with various Leases attached.

Another member mentioned that planning permission would be required for any commercial property.

Noise Complaints

Head of Operations reported that there had been 86 noise complaints during February, March and April made up as follows:

Bamfurlong Lane 37; Staverton 5; Down Hatherley 8; Churchdown 35; Lydney 1

He further reported that a newly elected Councilor had requested that 47 third party noise complaints were recorded and suggested the Airport provides a freephone number as postage and phone calls to register their complaints were cost prohibitive. He went on to say that the reporting of noise complaints was a simple process and he was not convinced that postage or local telephone calls were overly onerous. The member for Churchdown stated that at the Churchdown Parish Council meeting last week nothing of this nature had been mentioned and he would make further investigations at the Committee meeting next week.

A general discussion followed on 'anonymous' complaints with the following proposal put forward - "Gloucester Airport Limited can only log complaints if they are supported by sufficient details to investigate the complaint, accompanied by the complainants name and postcode"

The proposal was unanimously agreed by the Consultative Committee Members.

Head of Operations informed the Committee that the Airport Advisory Notice regarding the noise abatement procedures has been reissued and further monitoring has been undertaken. It was also agreed that noise monitoring would be conducted in the Sandycroft Road area of Churchdown.

Report of recent Planning Applications

1. Jet Age Museum

Progress with the Jet Age Museum is continuing, Graham Howell will be contacting local builders for quotations. It was confirmed that The Airport has given instructions for the Lease to be signed for the Jet Age Museum.

2. **SE27** The proposed project for SE27 has been postponed.

3. **Wind Farms**

Strensham - The application for the Mast was rejected
Forest of Dean - Waiting to hear from the Developer
Chaxhill site - Nothing heard

Airport Security Situation:

Crime statistics from Gloucestershire Constabulary were not available for the meeting due to staff changes within the department. It was now highly unlikely a PCSO would be able to attend any future Consultative Committee Meetings.

Head of Operations was not aware of any incidents since the last Consultative Committee Meeting, however, there are several Fire Extinguishers missing from the Airport Hangars which have had to be replaced.

A member raised concerns with traffic driving into the Airport along the new service road, damaging kerbs and that some of this traffic including Lorries should not be using the road and suggested new road markings were put in place.

A member commented that some of this traffic may be looking for the Flying schools and any passing trade was positive.

The Airport Director replied that there was a sign in place however; additional CCTV around the Airport site was being investigated together with associated costs

Head of Operations pointed out that the number of vehicles driving airside has decreased considerably now the new service road is in operation.

Any Other Business

The Chairman reported with sadness the death of John Bisco who passed away on 10th May 2011. John had a very long association with the Airport. Further details will follow in due course.

The Chairman enquired about the Charity Committee that the head of Operations suggested at the last Consultative Committee Meeting, he replied that this was currently difficult to administer and would be deferred for the time being. However, Charity donations were going very well.

A member mentioned the Radio 4 programme which had commented on the tragic accident in Cork involving a Manx2 airline. The Airport replied that there had been some negative publicity but the Airline used for the Gloucester routes was the German Airline FLM and UK legislation is different from that of Irish airspace. Despite the negative publicity arising from the accident, the passenger load factor on the scheduled service had increased.

Another member disagreed that the publicity was sensationalist and thought questions should be asked. Head of Operations replied that the incident will be considered at Gloucester Airport's Emergency Exercise due to be held on the 1st September 2011. A full report on the accident should be available in about a year's time.

A member enquired if there were any further developments with the supply of Mogas. Head of Operations replied that he was still pursuing a supplier and also suitable storage facilities, either a tank above ground or possibly investing in a bowser. The Airport Director commented that unfortunately, Air BP, the supplier of our aviation fuel, will not consider Mogas.

Another member enquired where complaints regarding Military aircraft should be directed, as there has been some very low flying Military aircraft recently over Twigworth. Head of Operations replied that these complaints should be directed to the MOD low flying complaints department.

The Airport Director informed that Committee that a bequest of £100 has been donated to the Airport from the Estate of Ray Darby (ex Airport Manager) to plant a Laburnum tree at the airport. Due to the nature of the request this will be taken to Airport Board Meeting being held on Friday 27th May 2011.

The meeting closed at 19.15

Date of next meeting: Thursday 18th August 2011 at 6 pm