

DRAFT

STANSTED AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 25 JUNE 2014 AT ENTERPRISE HOUSE STANSTED AIRPORT

ATTENDANCE

Chairman – Stewart Ashurst*

Users of Airport

Freight interests (1) – David Leigh*

Passenger airline companies (2) Ian Clayton

Business passengers (1) - Peter Odrich*

Passengers with (or with an interest in) restricted mobility - (1) Peter Lainson

Non Business passengers (1) Olivia Vandyk

Local authorities

Braintree District Council (1) – Hylton Johnson*

East Hertfordshire District Council (1) – Gary Jones

Epping Forest District Council (1) - Mary Sartin*

Essex County Council (1) – Rodney Bass

Harlow District Council (1) – Anthony Durcan

Hertfordshire County Council (1) – Graham McAndrew*

Uttlesford District Council (1) - Jackie Cheetham

Organisations with a locality interest

Environmental interests (1) – Carly Leonard*

East Herts Association of Local Councils (1) - TBA

Stop Stansted Expansion (1) - Brian Ross*

Commerce and Business interests (1) – David Burch

Tourism interests (1) – Keith Brown*

Surface transport interests (1) – Rufus Barnes*

Uttlesford Association of Local Councils (1) - Keith Artus*

(* present)

Also present at the meeting

Ms Zhanine Oates, Adviser Essex County Council*

Martin Peachey, Adviser Stop Stansted Expansion*

Representing Stansted Airport Limited (STAL)

Mr A Harrison - Managing Director*

Mr C Wiggan - Head of Public Affairs and Sustainable Development*

Mr N Robinson, Corporate Affairs Director*

Department for Transport

Colin Dunn

Secretariat

Frank Evans - Secretary and Technical Adviser to the Committee*

1. Election of Committee Chairman

Prior to the meeting, Members had been invited to submit nominations for the position of Committee Chairman. One nomination had been received - Stewart Ashurst had been nominated by Mary Sartin, seconded by Keith Artus. There were no further nominations at the meeting. Accordingly the Committee elected Stewart Ashurst as Chairman of the Consultative Committee for the year 2014/15.

2. Chairman's Introduction

The Chairman thanked the Committee for its continued support. He paid tribute to the support he and the Committee had received from the Chairmen of the Working Groups, from the Secretary and Technical Adviser and from Committee members themselves. He was also grateful to the Airport Management Team for the constructive and professional approach they had adopted towards Consultative Committee matters.

3. New Members, Apologies for Absence and Deputising Attenders

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Hylton Johnson as the new representative of Braintree District Council, replacing Julian Swift. It was noted that Councillor Anthony Durcan (who was unable to attend the meeting) had replaced Paul Schroder as the representative of Harlow Council.

Apologies for absence had been received from Peter Lainson, David Burch, Councillor Cheetham, Ian Clayton, Councillor Bass (represented by Councillor Eddie Johnson), Councillor Jones, Steve Bailes (Adviser) and Colin Dunn (DfT).

4. Election of Working Group Chairmen

a. Environmental Issues Group

The Committee elected Keith Artus - nominated by Stewart Ashurst and seconded by Carly Leonard - as Chairman of the Group for the year 2014/15.

b. User Experience Group

The Committee elected Rufus Barnes - nominated by Stewart Ashurst and seconded by Peter Odrich - as Chairman of the Group for the year 2014/15.

c. Corporate Affairs Group

The Committee noted that the Working Group met on an ad hoc basis to consider current strategic issues and there was no set membership. Accordingly, it was agreed that the Group should continue to be chaired by the STACC Chairman.

5. Appointment of Working Group Members

Prior to the meeting, Members had been asked to express a preference for their Working Group memberships. The Committee approved a report from the Chairman setting out the proposed membership of the Working Groups. The Committee also approved the suggestion of the Chairmen that the two new members - Councillors Durcan and Johnson - should join the Environmental Issues Group

6. Representation on Outside Bodies

a. Stansted Transport Forum

The Committee agreed that Rufus Barnes should continue to represent STACC on the Forum.

b. NTKWG

The Committee agreed that STACC should continue to be represented on this Group by the Secretary and Technical Adviser, the EIG Chairman and Martin Peachey and Steve Bailes (advisers to Stop Stansted Expansion and Uttlesford District Council respectively).

c. ANMAC

In accordance with the Awayday recommendations approved by the Committee on April 30th, the Committee noted that the Secretary and Technical Adviser would represent the Committee on ANMAC.

d. Stansted Airport Community Trust

The Committee agreed that Councillor Gary Jones should continue to represent the Committee on the Trust.

7. Past Year and Future Year Annual Work Programme

The Committee received a report from the Secretary and Technical Adviser summarising the previous year's activities and suggesting the future annual work programme. In discussion, it was suggested that the future work UEG programme should include PRM issues and developing contacts with airlines.

The Chairman stressed the need for the Committee and its Working Groups to develop clear annual objectives – including the annual outcomes expected and the anticipated level of resources required to achieve them. These were all particularly important given the increasing financial independence of the Committee and the concomitant requirement from STAL for greater clarity as to how the bloc grant was to be utilised.

8. Financial Matters

The Committee received a report from the Chairman about future financial arrangements including the setting of an annual Committee Budget. As stated under Agenda item 7 above, the Committee would be receiving a bloc grant from the airport. This would provide the Committee with an appropriate degree of financial independence and allow it to authorise expenditure without the approval of the airport. Work was in hand to effect this change. The Chairman noted that this was the first budget of its kind and would need to be refined and developed over future years.

The Committee approved the Committee Budget for the year 2014/15.

9. Public Question Time

No Questions had been received for the meeting.

10. Minutes

- a. The draft minutes of the STACC Committee meeting held on April 30th 2014 were approved as a correct record.
- b. It was confirmed that the Airport Management Team would update the Committee on the issue of its housing asset base at its October meeting. On the outstanding issue of land compensation, the Airport Management Team agreed to provide a general background Note on the current process. Given the legal implications, the note would not cover specific cases.

11. Working Groups

a. Environmental Issues Group

The Committee received the Notes of the Environmental Issues Group meeting held on May 14th. It was noted that work had now been initiated with Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) on the issue of alternative noise metrics. A copy of the discussion paper prepared for the MMU meeting would be circulated to Members. NATS had launched its consultation on its proposals for a redistribution of traffic from the Dover route to the Clacton route. EIG would be preparing a draft response to the consultation. In discussion, it was suggested that whilst some residents would benefit from the changes, other would be worse off. It was also noted that the consultation would be taking place over the summer holiday period at a time when parish and local councils did not meet. Accordingly the Secretary and Technical Adviser was asked to explore with NATS the scope for extending the consultation period.

b. User Experience Group

The Committee received the Minutes of the meeting held on June 11th. It had disappointing to note that proposals to change the discount parking scheme had been presented to the Group without any prior consultation. It appeared that the main reason for change was the abuse of the scheme by taxi drivers who did not pass on the discount to customers. It was suggested that this issue should be addressed through regulatory or licensing channels and the Airport Management Team agreed to explore this further. As opposed to Stansted, it appeared that Gatwick Airport would actually be extending their car parking discount arrangements. If a larger airport such as Gatwick could afford to do this, why not Stansted? It was agreed that a special UEG meeting should be arranged to consider discounting arrangements in detail.

Such a meeting might usefully explore the issue of immigration flow trials. Although new E gates were due to be fully operational in August, there were concerns about staffing levels. It was also noted that the gates were not suitable for families as under 18s were not permitted to use them. It was also noted that passengers arriving late in the evening could experience delays of up to 40 minutes to process passport control.

Finally, it was reported that a number of UEG representatives had visited Gatwick Airport to review PRM facilities - Gatwick had been cited as an example of best practice. However the Group's overall impression from its visit was that facilities at Stansted were better than at Gatwick. The Group proposed to make a further PRM related visit to Birmingham Airport.

12. Sustainable Development Plan (SDP)

The AMT updated the Committee on progress following the special Committee meeting held on June 3rd. It was planned to hold a further event for the Committee on 17 July in

advance of the planned consultation date of July 21st. (The Secretary would contact members to confirm the date). The AMT commented that the meeting held on June 3rd had been well attended and helpful with a number of the key issues raised being further considered. In discussion, it was noted that the plan was not forecast led. The issue of land use planning needed to be addressed. The initial proposals did not appear to cover the key outstanding local issue of housing stock. It was noted that proposals were under consideration to shorten the summer school holiday period. Was the possible impact being factored into the plan? Would the plan be subject to review? Would the plan be accessible to the layman rather than an informed aviation audience? It was noted that the proposed SDP seemed a less substantial document than that produced by Gatwick.

It was agreed that the Committee should await the publication of the draft plan before making further comment.

13. Managing Director's Report

The Committee received a report from the Managing Director. The Committee noted the continued growth in passenger numbers. In terms of route development, Thomas Cook had announced the introduction of seasonal long haul services to the US and Mexico from the summer of 2015. Two new cargo operators had begun services in May. Members expressed concern that the new cargo services used older aircraft which were potentially noisier. However it was understood that these operators had fleet replacement plans which would result in new and quieter aircraft.

It was noted that rail usage had dropped in recent years whilst other airports such as Gatwick had increased. Competitive bus and coach services were part of the reason but it was a concern with the proposed expansion of the airport that reliance on cars might increase to the detriment of the local environment. It was agreed that there would be value in the Committee liaising with the AMT and local authorities to consider the scope for improving rail services and increasing rail usage. Cost per mile compared with bus and coach should be explored. This might inform a joint paper which could be used to make representations to MPs and Government.

14. Government Consultations

a. Airport Commission

It was noted that the Airports Commission had published a discussion paper on the utilisation of existing airports capacity. It was agreed that a meeting of CAG should be arranged to consider a draft STACC response. The Secretary would contact Members as to availability.

b. LAMP consultation

As discussed under agenda item 11a above, EIG would consider the consultation document and draft a response.

15. Helicopter Operations

As agreed at the previous meeting, the AMT had prepared a background paper on helicopter operations. It was noted that the airport's monitoring system did not provide for detailed tracking of helicopters. It was agreed that the paper should be considered by EIG. It was noted that the current level of helicopter complaints was very low.

16. Annual Complaints

The Committee noted a paper on the level of complaints. It was further noted that UEG planned to consider overall trends in complaints as part of its future work programme.

17. Date of next meeting

The Committee confirmed October 29th 2014 as the date of the next meeting.