

DRAFT

STANSTED AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 28 JUNE 2017 AT ENTERPRISE HOUSE, STANSTED AIRPORT

ATTENDANCE

Chairman – Stewart Ashurst*

Users of Airport

Freight interests (1) – David Leigh*

Passenger airline companies (2) Chris Hughes

Business passengers (1) - Peter Odrich*

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

Non Business passengers (1) Julie Jones

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) – Ricki Gadsby

Harlow District Council (1) – Danny Purton

Hertfordshire County Council (1) – Graham McAndrew

Uttlesford District Council (1) - Keith Artus*

Organisations with a locality interest

Environmental interests (1) – Richard Burrett*

Hertfordshire Association of Local and Parish Councils - Angela Alder *

Stop Stansted Expansion (1) - Brian Ross*

Commerce and Business interests (1) – Haydon Yates*

Tourism interests (1) – Keith Brown

Surface transport interests (1) – Rufus Barnes*

**Uttlesford Association of Local Councils (1) - Jackie Cheetham*
(* present)**

Also present at the meeting

Frank Evans - Secretary and Technical Adviser to STACC*

Representing Stansted Airport Limited (STAL)

Andrew Cowan - Chief Executive Officer*
Chris Wiggan - Head of External Affairs *
Neil Robinson - Corporate Responsibility Director*
Daniel Gallo - Customer Services & Security Director*
John Twigg - MAG*
Alistair Andrew - MAG*

1. Election of Committee Chairman

The Committee **ELECTED** Stewart Ashurst as Chairman of the Committee for the duration of the meeting.

2. Apologies For Absence and Deputising Attenders

- i. Apologies had been received from Julie Jones and Graham McAndrew. It was noted that Councillor Mike Steptoe would be the representative of Essex County Council in place of Councillor Ricki Gadsby. Councillor Steptoe had sent his apologies.
- ii. The Chairman welcomed Richard Burrett to his first meeting of the full Committee.

3. Appointment of new STACC Chairman

The Committee considered a report from Rufus Barnes - the Chairman of the Appointments Panel and **APPROVED** the appointment of Shena Winning as Chair of STACC for a three year period with effect from the end of the meeting.

4. Election of Working Group Chairmen

a. User Experience Group

The Committee **ELECTED** Rufus Barnes as Chairman of the UEG for the year 2017/2018. Mr Barnes had been proposed by Peter Odrich and seconded by Mary Sartin.

b. Environmental Issues Group

The Committee **ELECTED** Keith Artus as Chairman of the EIG for the year 2017/2018. Mr Artus had been proposed by Danny Purton and seconded by Hylton Johnson.

c. Corporate Affairs Group

It was **AGREED** that the STACC Chairman should continue to chair this Group for the time being.

5. Appointment of Working Group members

Consultation with Members by the Secretary and Technical Adviser had resulted in members advising that they wished to retain their existing responsibilities. Accordingly the Committee **APPROVED** the composition of the Working Groups as unchanged for 2017/18.

6. Representation on Outside Bodies

a. Stansted Transport Forum

The Committee **AGREED** that the UEG Chairman and, where appropriate, the Secretary and Technical Adviser should continue to represent STACC on this Forum.

b. NTKWG

The Committee **AGREED** that STACC should continue to be represented on this Group by Keith Artus, the Secretary and Technical Adviser and adviser Steve Bailes.

c. ANMAC and other aviation related Government Groups

The Committee **AGREED** that the Secretary and Technical Adviser should continue to represent the Committee on ANMAC and other aviation related Government Groups.

d. Stansted Airport Community Trust

The Committee **AGREED** that Mary Sartin should continue to represent the Committee on this Trust.

7. Past Year

The Committee **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** a report from the Secretary and Technical Adviser on the work of the Committee over the past year.

8. Annual Work Programme (AWP)

The Committee **RECEIVED** the 2016/17 AWP covering the work of the Working Groups. It was noted that the Corporate Affairs Group had not met during the year due to a lack of business. However it was further noted that CAG would be meeting in early July to consider STAL's future development plans and that in the coming year there would probably be a number of important matters for the Group to discuss.

It was **AGREED** that the three Working Groups would discuss their 2017/18 AWP's at their next meeting and determine priorities,

9. 2017/2018 STACC Budget

The Committee considered a CAG report on the budget and **APPROVED** the 2017/18 STACC Budget which had been recommended by the Working Group. In accordance with the Committee's Overall Financial Arrangements, STAL had noted the proposed budget without any adverse or qualifying comments having been made. In discussion, members regretted that it had not been possible to use the budget to commission any research. It was explained that a number of factors had prevented this although action was in hand to commission research during 2017/18.

10. Minutes

The Committee **APPROVED** as a correct record the draft Minutes of the Committee meeting held on April 26th 2017. One matter arising was dealt with under the Public Question Time agenda item.

11. Public Question Time

a. Mr Belcher's Question at the April Committee meeting

It was noted that at the April meeting, one Member of the Committee had disagreed in the meeting with the Chairman's response to the Public Question. Following the meeting, the Chairman acknowledged that there had been a factual inaccuracy in the response which ought to be corrected. The Chairman subsequently invited Committee members by email to indicate by the end of May which of two options set out in the email they believed would be their

preference as a revised response to Mr Belcher's original Question in April. The Secretary and Technical Adviser had received observations from only two members and therefore, in accordance with the email, the Chairman advised the Committee that he assumed Members were content with the Option A response as set out in the email. The Committee **CONFIRMED** that the Option A response should be used as the revised Answer to Mr. Belcher's Question. The revised Answer approved by the Committee is therefore as follows:

"I am not an executive chairman in the sense of a chief executive officer. I simply chair

these meetings and oversee the work of the Committee. In this response therefore, I can only seek to express what I believe would be a view commanding the support of a majority of the Committee.

STACC was initially instrumental in forcefully drawing attention to the growing concern of people affected by the kind of land compensation issues to which Mr Belcher refers. In more recent years, while still concerned about these issues, STACC has not thought it appropriate to be involved in any negotiations about compensation claims or related matters of law concerning any interest of an individual or group of individuals including the resolution of any one claim or set of claims.

STACC's more recent focus of concern has been that there should be a purposeful process for resolving these matters and that the process should be conducted as expeditiously as possible given what obviously is a very intricate, complex matter and the understandable concerns of the individuals affected. STACC has been pleased to note that within the last year or so, the pace towards resolving these complex matters does appear to have quickened.

Because STACC has not recently been involved in the detailed substance of the overall subject, the particular issue referred to in Mr Belcher's Question is not one on which the Committee can usefully comment. STACC would expect however that the individuals affected and their advisers have considered whether in the position outlined and believed to be accurate by Mr Belcher, the legal principle of estoppel and its implications might apply. Whether this principle or any moral obligation referred to by Mr Belcher might apply is a matter rather for STAL and the company's advisers to consider"

The Chairman offered his apologies to both Mr Belcher and the Committee for the factual inaccuracy in his answer given at the April Meeting and the brusqueness in the tone of his response. Members were grateful to the Chairman for his apology.

In discussion, it was noted that the Committee's Constitution was very clear as to how public questions should be handled. Questions and Answers were not expected to result in a discussion. It was suggested that if, after more experience of the relevant PQT paragraphs, members considered that the current Public Question Time procedures needed to be reviewed, then this could be an issue for discussion at a future Awayday.

b. Mr Will Wright/ Mr Tony Hoodless Little Hadham Council

"Residents in the parish of Little Hadham are increasingly concerned by a noticeable increase in the number of aircraft passing overhead at a lower altitude than in recent years. As an area close to the airport the parish council are conscious that some aircraft noise is to be expected, however, it is an otherwise very quiet rural area and we are concerned that changes have happened that are now impacting our residents significantly more than in the past.

We would like to ask the following question:

- What options are available to lessen the impact of aircraft in the Little Hadham area - for example, can aircraft climb to a higher altitude before turning (as they did in the past)? "

The AMT advised that they would be sending a detailed response to the Council. An initial investigation had not suggested that there had been any significant change in the pattern of flights. The area was subject to both arriving and departing aircraft depending upon wind direction. It was also possible that the area was affected by the general growth in traffic. The AMT advised that they would be willing to install a noise monitor to help gauge impacts. Its location could be further discussed with the Council. It was also noted that Performance Based Navigation (PBN) could bring benefits by better direction of flights and reduce the number of residents overflown.

12. Working Groups: Reports of meetings

The Committee **RECEIVED** and **ENDORSED** the draft Notes of the EIG meeting held on 24 May.

The Chairmen of the UEG and EIG Working Groups reported on the work of their Groups over the past year.

As **EIG** was concerned, work had continued in the developing use of PBN on Stansted routes. The Group had liaised closely with local parish councils and groups on the CAA's Post Implementation Review of the Dover/Clacton airspace change. The Committee had written to the CAA but had received a disappointing response. The Group were planning to make a robust response to the CAA. The AMT advised that their response to the PIR had been confined to providing factual information. As part of its benchmarking work, the Group had visited the Intu shopping centre at Watford. The Group had also responded to several government consultations and was currently preparing a response to the CAA's consultation on airspace guidance.

As regards **UEG**, the Group continued to have a good and constructive relationship with Border Force. In discussion it was suggested that there had been recent security issues at the airport. It was agreed that these would be best

discussed at the next UEG. PRM and Express Set Down had been other issues that received regular attention. The Group would be represented on the airport's Customer Service Strategy Programme Board and hoped to provide added value. The Group had also visited Birmingham Airport to discuss PRM issues and to attend a meeting of the airport's consultative committee.

13. Airport Management Matters

The Committee **RECEIVED** the airport's management report presented by the Chief Executive Officer. The report highlighted the continued growth of the airport both in passenger numbers and cargo tonnage. New routes had been introduced. New destinations included Salzburg, Tel Aviv, Derry, New York and Jamaica.

The continued growth placed focus on the airport's development plans. STAL intended to apply to Uttlesford District Council for planning permission to raise the current planning cap from 35 million to 44.5 million passengers. The airport management proposed to consult with the local community and a number of events were planned in the coming weeks. It was noted that there was no event planned for Harlow. It was suggested that the consultation period should recognise that it was the summer months when people were away on holiday and should be sufficiently long. It was important to ensure that the proposed developments also covered cargo interests and that infrastructure was fit for purpose. A meeting of the Corporate Affairs Group had been arranged for 4 July to discuss the proposals in detail.

Progress was being made on the land compensation claims with the airport seeking to resolve some issues without the need for litigation. Progress also continued to be made with regard to the disposal of the STAL residential property portfolio with 131 properties now being sold. It was STAL's aim to sell the properties in a responsible way.

The airport had held a Jobs Fair on 25 May. This had been attended by almost 500 job seekers.

14. UKACCS Conference

The Committee **RECEIVED** a report of the meeting held in Glasgow on 7/8 June which had been attended by the Chairman and Secretary and Technical Adviser. It was noted that the meeting had covered Brexit issues. The Secretary was asked to obtain a copy of the paper for Members.

15 Date of Next Meeting

October 4th 2017 was **CONFIRMED** as the date of the next meeting.

16. Chairman's Farewell

In his farewell address to the Committee, the Chairman expressed his appreciation for all the help and support he had received from the public, the airport management, the two Working Group Chairmen, the Secretary and the whole of STACC. In response, Members of the Committee and the STAL CEO paid tribute to the Chairman's valuable and helpful work over the past ten years.

17. Introduction of new Chairman

Shena Winning - the new Chairman gave a brief introduction. It was **AGREED** that the Secretary should canvass dates for an Awayday either in late July or early September.

**Stansted Airport Consultative Committee
June 2017**