

**Minutes of the Norwich Airport Consultative Committee**

**held on Monday 3 August 2015**

**at the Diamond Jubilee Lodge, Hellesdon Parish Council Offices**

1).	Present:	J Sadler	Chairman
		R Pace	NIA
		P Gadd	NIA
		S Gurney	Norfolk CC
		M Gee	NAG
		L Wilkinson	Drayton PC
		S Fidler	H&NSF PC
		K Clarke	Horsford PC
		P Norris	Bristow
		B Walker	Taverham PC
		I Moncur	Sprowston TC
		Z Nelson	Bond

Apologies:	A Cowles	Hainford PC
	P Mahoney	Vice Chairman
	A Bell	NIA
	J Arnott	Old Catton
	R Fisher	Frettenham

The Chairman welcomed new committee members to the meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 1 June 2015 were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

2). **Matters Arising:**

- Parking issues are still ongoing at Hellesdon however, it is not confirmed they are offshore workers.
- The website for the Group is being updated and a request will be made to review if further information can be provided on what the ADF is spent on. Some information is already available on the Norwich Airport website.

3). **General Manager's Report**

- The shooting in Tunisia has resulted in the remainder of the Tunisia S15 schedule being cancelled. Thomson has replaced the capacity to Las Palmas with a longer season and the feedback is that it is selling well. Thomas Cook service to Tunisia which was operated by a third party carrier and not based in Norwich has not been replaced.
- First quarter ended June 2015 year on year pax numbers are flat. Amsterdam flights are performing approx 3% ahead of last year, domestic schedules have seen a 5% decrease year

on year and helicopter traffic is 1% less than last year. Charter traffic overall is broadly the same as last year. Thomson has launched their S16 programme with Paphos as an addition to their Norwich network.

- The first Norwich Connects mailer detailing the current routes together with a KLM flyer and offer was sent out in June to the regional Ambassadors. Loganair and Eastern Airways are also engaged on the project.
- The 6 week legal challenge period for the Northern Distributor Road expired on 14 July, there are no challenges lodged to date. Assuming there are no challenges, the main construction starts in March 2016 and will be completed by December 2017. There will be some preliminary fencing works around the perimeter of the airfield which will commence the beginning of October 2015.
- The Aviation museum was discussed, which sits on land owned and managed directly by the local authorities. PG has been asked to speak with the representative of the museum because of their wish to try and relocate close to the airfield, but has had no formal indication from them, but as far as site relocation is concerned they would need to contact the local authorities and is not a matter for the ACC.

#### 4). **Operations & ATS Report**

- A third flight trial took place w/c 22 June for the new radar. The subsequent report has indicated it meets the regulatory requirements. The project is expected to be completed by 9<sup>th</sup> September.
- There have been a number of successful airline audits, Loganair, Eastern Airways, KLM and Thomas Cook who have all conducted station audits.

#### **Operational Occurrences**

- June 2015 – a light aircraft came into conflict with an aircraft on push back from the terminal. Reported to the CAA – under investigation.
- June 2015 - Air Ambulance landed an unauthorised helicopter type on the western apron. Under investigation.
- June 2015 - North Sea Helicopter landed with an electrical fault – landed safely.
- June 2015 – Laser attack. The tower saw a green laser being aimed at a landing aircraft from the Crash Gate south east of the runway. ATC informed Air Ops who approached the vehicle and information has been passed to the police for action.
- July 2015 - Airliner departed without complying with the required clearance.

Appendix A - Complaints Register was discussed and noted.

Appendix B - Restricted hours was discussed and noted. It was again reiterated that all flights are adhered to within the parameters as outlined in the Operating Framework Agreement.

Appendix C - Noise & Flying complaints was discussed and noted.

#### 5). **Offshore Helicopter Activity**

KC asked what difference is it making now the DanCopter helicopters have been replaced with the larger helicopters which seem quieter and quicker, and did it mean less

helicopters because there were more people in each helicopter or was it the same and just more people going through.

RP confirmed that year on year the Airport was 1% down on pax numbers. The AW139 referred to is a bigger helicopter and doesn't have the Fenestron that EuroCopters have. The client will determine the range, together with the number of people they wish to carry and the number of flights it wants to operate. It is not necessarily the case that the helicopters fly with maximum capacity as some travel by sea and return by helicopter or vice versa. There are a number of variables that make up the flying programme.

RP confirmed the Airport was approached by North Norfolk District Council earlier this year and RP held a meeting with Councillor Glyn Williams who was concerned with helicopter activity over North Norfolk. RP and Mick Tacon from Bond carried out a presentation to NNDC to try to educate NNDC Councillors on the helicopter operation at the airport, the parameters, the location of the gas fields etc., so they were more informed to discuss any problems with local parishes.

NNDC has put together a briefing bulletin which will be given to the local parishes, including the significant economic benefits to the community.

It was confirmed Hellesdon are still getting complaints regarding ground running noise from the Helicopters. SG is in communication with the Operators to recommence the working group meetings.

6). **AOB**

- LW asked if the widening of the A11 had any impact on the airport. RP confirmed that the pax numbers were flat year on year and the widening had not impacted on the airport, only pressure from the price war between Ryanair and Easyjet.
- **Engine Testing Facility**

There has been a problem with parts for the locking mechanism for the blast screens which had to be resupplied and are being installed this week. The fencing will be removed the beginning of next week and are awaiting a reply from KLMUKE to rebook an aircraft to go into commission. As soon as the commissioning has taken place, RP will notify the CAA with the final safety case.

As soon as the commissioning is final – there will be a formal PR launch which will include as requested a visit for the ACC members.

SF asked what qualifications would be achieved from the Aviation Academy. PG confirmed that there would be a variety of courses offered. September 2016 is earmarked for the start of intake at City College level. Once it is ratified by the UEA there will then be an intake that will deal with Degree level (3 year course),

interspersed with hands on practical work on the aircraft, which means at the end of the three years for the first time in the UK there will be a graduate with a practising certificate.

**7). Date of next meeting**

2nd November 2015 at Hellesdon PC Office @14.00hrs

**CHAIRMAN**