

Minutes of the Norwich Airport Consultative Committee

held on Monday 6 February 2017 @ 1400 hrs

at the Diamond Jubilee Lodge, Hellesdon Parish Council Offices

1).	Present:	J Sadler	Spixworth PC (Chairman)
		L Wilkinson	Drayton PC
		R Fisher	Frettenham PC
		P Norris	Bristow
		A Durand	SaxonAir
		Z Nelson	Babcock
		K Clarke	Horsford PC
		S Gurney	Norfolk County Council
		N Shaw	Broadland District Council
		P Mahoney	KLMUKE (Vice Chairman)
		R Pace	NIA
		J Sayer	S Strawless PC
		L Rogers	Hainford PC
		R Sear	Hellesdon PC
		M Gee	Norwich Aviation Group
		J Arnott	Old Catton PC

Apologies:

B Walker	Taverham PC
P Gadd	NIA
R Ryan	Norwich City Council

Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 7 November 2016 were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

2). **Matters Arising:**

No matters arising.

3). **Managing Director's Report**

2016 has been a significant year of passenger growth for the airport. Passengers have increased year on year by 50,000 passengers rising to 517,000 an 11% increase. The growth has been largely due to the year round scheduled services to Malaga, Alicante and Exeter and higher than expected offshore helicopter activity.

KLM's service to Amsterdam has once again had a steady year at 141,000 passengers. The services to Malaga and Alicante had a strong summer but there is some demand weakness in the winter season. Stronger performance is expected in the second year of operation as the routes begin to mature. Loganair's Edinburgh service grew by 7% to 31,000 passengers. An additional Saturday rotation is being introduced from summer 2017. The Loganair Manchester service performance has been disappointing and has contracted by 11% to 24,000 passengers. The Aberdeen services operated by Eastern Airways and bmi continued to face significant challenges and saw a further 11% decrease year on year from 47,000 to 42,000 passengers.

General Aviation traffic remained flat year on year with circa 8000 passengers carried.

The offshore helicopter sector has seen a mixed picture during 2016. Existing operations saw a contraction whilst the new Cygnus gas field coming on line was higher than expected activity. One helicopter was re-located from Humberside in November. Overall there were 5000 fewer passenger carried in 2016 at 105,000.

Turning to Charter routes, Paphos was added for summer 2016, plus the twice weekly winter service to Tenerife. 4% fewer passengers travelled than last year at just over 103,000. However with the introduction of a larger aircraft to carry Thomson passengers, capacity will see a 25% increase for summer 2017.

We continue to work on the re-establishment of scheduled services to popular destinations such as Paris and Dublin.

Construction of the high powered engine testing pen was completed and went operational in April. An official opening was held in September. Guests included members of this committee and the event appeared to go well.

Facilitating works for construction of the Northern Distributor Road (NDR), including airfield perimeter fencing are complete except for some minor snagging works.

The Airport commenced work on the long overdue Airport Master Plan. A working draft is expected in early February followed by consultation with key stakeholders with adoption expected by July 2017.

The International Aviation Academy Norwich (IAAN) project is progressing rapidly and is on time to open in April 2017. This is an exciting project so closely located to the airport which will be a significant asset to Norwich and Norfolk to provide opportunity for local young people and to generate the aircraft engineers of the future.

Looking ahead significant projects for 2017 include upgrading of the Charlie taxiway and replacement of the current fuel farm as well as a project for replacement security equipment.

Loganair have confirmed the additional weekly frequency to Edinburgh and the new 4pw service to Jersey. Loganair and flybe are terminating their franchise agreement with effect from the 1st of September 2017. Unless a code share agreement is reached, it will no longer be possible to book

Loganair flights through flybe. The biggest risk is believed to be to the Manchester route, which is heavily dependent on flybe connecting traffic and the situation is being kept under review.

In conclusion, the Airport has had a successful year and is in target to finish slightly ahead of budget. Further modest growth is expected in 2017. The Brexit vote has happened and Article 50 is due to be triggered in March 2017. What this means for the aviation industry is not yet clear and how the aviation framework will look in the future is not yet determined. The airport will continue to be run on a “business as usual basis” but with an emphasis on conserving cash wherever practicable in case of any future economic shocks.

Although I lead the airport achievements would not be possible without the support and dedication of the Airport’s staff, contractors, suppliers and management team. I would also like to extend my thanks to the ACC for their constructive approach to working through issues and support for the airport in 2017.

The security of the fuel farm was discussed and improved security will be included in the project.

4). **Operations and ATS Report**

The CAA recently updated the PRM rankings of UK Airports and graded Norwich as ‘Very Good’. Staff training sessions for Autism Awareness continues with new dates planned for 2017. Norwich also launched new wristbands for passengers travelling with hidden disabilities to ensure they too receive assistance throughout the airport.

The airport experienced the first significant period of Winter operations on Friday 13th January with sufficient snowfall to require the airport to be closed for a period of just over 2 hours for snow clearing activities. Only one scheduled flight was cancelled as the closure coincided with the quieter late morning period.

Date	Summary	Action
25.11.16	Helicopter pilot reported laser attack – aircraft landed safely.	Reported to police and CAA.
26.11.16	KLM pilot reported smoke in cockpit – full emergency declared – aircraft landed safely.	Reported to CAA.
04.12.16	KLM reported bird strike. Runway Inspection completed and remains of Black Headed Gull found.	Reported to ATC, Aircraft Flight Deck and CAA.

22.12.16	Aircraft reported being targeted by laser on final approach to RW27. No injuries reported.	Reported to Police and CAA.
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Drones and laser attacks were discussed. There is currently a CAA consultation paper on Drones.

- Complaints Register - Noted – The register is being changed commencing January 2017 to itemise groups of complaints by category to make them more readily visible.
- Register of Late Aircraft Movements - Noted.
- Noise/Flying Complaints - Noted. Routes and height of helicopters were discussed and RP explained the operational scenario covering these aspects.

5). **Offshore Helicopter Activity**

Nothing to report

6). **AOB**

- A bright light on the EAAA building which blinds people when on the Cromer Road was reported. RP to look into this.
- NS gave an update on SASIG Meetings/Consultations and documents.

7). **Date of next meeting**

12 April 2017 at Hellesdon PC Offices @ 1400hrs.

CHAIRMAN