

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the  
Norwich Airport Consultative Committee**

**held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024 @ 1400 hrs  
Hellesdon Parish Council Office**

<b>1) Present:</b>	S Gurney	Norfolk County Council (Chairman)
	P Langley	Norwich Airport Ltd
	D Edwards	Norwich Airport Ltd (Secretary)
	J Dewing	Saxonair Charter Ltd
	P Daly	Spixworth PC
	R Fisher	Frettenham PC
	J Anderson	Drayton PC
	K Clarke	Horsford PC
	M Booth	Broadland District Council & Sprowston TC
	J Latchford	Taverham PC

**Apologies:**

R Pace	Norwich Airport Ltd
G Hegarty	Horsham & Newton St Faith PC
B Leggett	Old Catton PC
L Rogers	Hainford PC
D Holmes	KLMUK Engineering
A Tipple	Broadland District Council

Shelagh Gurney – Chairman opened the meeting.

**2) Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were agreed by those present at the meeting, and duly signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of that meeting. This was seconded and agreed.

**3) Matters Arising from the Minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

No matters arising.

**4) Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

It was agreed that following the constitution election is not due this year. The last election for Chair was completed in July 2021, with a follow up early election of Deputy Chair in January 2023. **The next election will be due in July 2025.**

## **5) Chairman's Annual Report**

Norwich Airport continues to flourish and expand. It has suffered some recent setbacks particularly with the knock-on effects on the business from Covid incident which had a detrimental effect on the aviation industry as a whole. It was fortuitous that the Rigby Group, who own the airport were in a financial position to maintain the status quo.

2023 -2024 has seen another steady year of growth with more planned routes and holiday opportunities for the residents of Norfolk and further afield. This has however meant that there are more late over runs after the 11pm closure than expected. For me as Councillor representing Hellesdon this has meant an increase in resident complaints about late night noise disturbances from the airport. I am aware from our meetings and the data provided that these exceptions have been well scrutinised before permissions are given to proceed. This has meant that passengers are recovered to the airport from whence they departed thus avoiding a relocation to another operational airfield some many miles away such as Luton which necessitates lengthy journeys after flights back to the UK.

Noise abatement has again been a priority discussion for members of the Airport Consultative Committee particularly form helicopter activity. However, these have seen a decrease in movements to offshore bases due to larger craft which take more passengers and a reduction in rig to rig transfers now using shipping methods instead. The Helicopter section remains a standing item on our agendas for the foreseeable future.

Attendance at the committee meetings has not been as good as I feel it should have been with our usual stalwarts being attentive. I have through the committee secretary written to all those eligible for membership, or those who could attend to encourage a larger group for meetings. This sadly to date has not been very productive and for the future we must try to encourage those parties to attend even if it is only for the AGM.

Our Secretary has done an admirable job with administrative support and I thank her for this. The Officers of the Airport have given us reports and updates with clear explanations about why things happen and the necessity to comply with legislation etc. and this has I hope given members a better and clearer understanding of the complex needs and issues that an airport faces.

I would like to thank everybody for their support and assistance this year. I know that Cllr Latchford as the VC would also echo my sentiments.

Action: RP/SG will once again reach out to those entitled to attend to try and increase member attendance throughout the coming year, consider meet & greet sessions. SG/JD agreed the next ACC meeting to be held at Saxonair and this will include a visit to view their new electric aircraft.

## **6) Managing Director's Annual Report**

Passenger numbers have recovered to the post Covid basis of circa 351,000 which is circa 70% of pre-pandemic passengers. Whilst holiday passengers are broadly in line with expectation, the Amsterdam service is recovering at a slower pace than expected and domestic passengers are below expectation due to the Exeter service not resuming. There has also been a significant reduction in offshore passengers for a variety of reasons. The

passenger numbers are expected to increase to over 450,000 in the coming year but it maybe the following year (FY26) before passenger numbers recover back to 2019 levels.

We celebrated a major milestone with the start of operations from the airport by Ryanair in April. It sees Norwich become Ryanair's 22nd UK airport with the start of three exciting new summer sunshine routes with twice weekly flights (Mon/Fri) to Alicante, Faro & Malta, 12 flights per week to/from Norwich, 60,000 passengers in Summer 2024 and over 60 new local jobs. In addition to offering new routes and more choice for customers, Ryanair's new Norwich operation will drive valuable inbound tourism for the region and will create more than 60 local jobs and support important regional growth.

Norwich Airport's summer schedule is now in full swing. Hot on the heels of the launch of the Ryanair flights. The airport has welcomed an influx of passengers as the rest of its sunshine schedule commenced in May. TUI launched eight summer destinations from Norwich to Cyprus, Corfu, Crete, Rhodes, Ibiza, Majorca, Menorca and Turkey along with their year-round service to Tenerife. Meanwhile Blue Islands started its twice-weekly summer flights to Jersey on 11th May. Travellers can also enjoy year-round flights from Norwich to Aberdeen with Loganair, and KLM has up to four flights a day to Amsterdam, with over 145 onward destinations. In total there are 17 destinations in 10 countries being offered from Norwich Airport in 2024/25.

Ryanair has announced a new winter service from Norwich Airport to Alicante in Spain, these flights will continue to operate twice weekly (Mon/Sat) over the winter months. This means flights to Alicante are bookable now via ryanair.com until the end of March 2025. This is another huge vote of confidence in Norwich Airport by Ryanair, coming so soon after the launch of their first ever flights from Norwich.

The financial performance continued to recover to pre-covid levels of performance.

The Net Zero work continues as the Airport works towards Airport Carbon Accreditation Level 2 status. The application has been submitted and we are awaiting the result. Work continues on the Airport's Surface Access Strategy (ASAS) and is close to being finalised before being submitted to the Local Planning Authorities for endorsement.

There has been a step change this year with the launch of Ryanair routes from Norwich for the first time and we hope that there will be further growth next summer. The Net Zero pathway is accelerating, and the airport is working to both a financially and environmentally sustainable future.

NAL

24 07 24

## **7) Constitution**

Cllr Gurney reviewed the Constitution and proposed it should be left as follows, this was agreed by those present.

- Four meetings per annum. Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct on a Wednesday.

- AGM to be held in July.

**8) Members Attendance Record**

Members attendance record was noted.

**9) AOB**

No other business was cited.

**10) Date of next AGM**

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025 at 1400.