GLOUCESTERSHIRE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY 17th February 2011

Précis of minutes for publication on Airport website & Airport Notice Board

Present - 11 Members + 3 Representative of Gloucestershire Airport

Apologies - received from 6 Members

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Chairman welcomed and introduced the recently appointed Chairman of the Airport Board of Directors and the new representative for Cheltenham Borough Council.

The Secretary took over the Chair for the annual election of the officers –

It was agreed by all present that the current Chairman should continue in her role and the current Vice-chairman was re-elected for a further twelve months.

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 18th November 2010 -

The minutes were approved by those present and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising –

1. Car Parking - Nothing further to report

2. Airport Tenants and Users Group

Following on from discussions at the last meeting, it was agreed that the Consultative Committee would be used as a means of recording the decision(s) made by the Users Group regarding their future continuation or otherwise and also any financial matters as appropriate.

3. Charity Events 2011

The Airport Head of Operations reported that 3 charities would be supported by Gloucestershire Airport Ltd during 2011, these were: Help for Heroes, The Air Ambulance and The Jet Age Museum. On Sunday 15th May 2011 a Flyer Forum has been organized for injured/disabled service personnel. Whilst this event is not organized by Gloucestershire Airport Ltd., the Airport will be supporting it by waiving landing fees for the participants.

An Airport Open Day will be held during the summer with Sunday 3rd July 2011 being the preferred date. This will coincide with the 75th Anniversary of the Airport with the aim of raising money for the Airports chosen charities.

There is the possibility of another car event to be held one evening later in the year; this will be confirmed at a later date.

Other charity events will be held throughout the year

Consultative Committee Matters –

There were no Consultative Committee Matters to report.

Airport Management Matters -

i. Airport Development Plan:

There was nothing further to report on the Runway Safety Project until the final signatures had been obtained on several documents.

The electricity cable which had been identified beneath where the new property (Blenheim House) is to be built would be moved when the Project commences.

ii. Environment Report

The Committee was informed of the proposed wind turbine at Alney Island, Gloucester.

Analysis revealed that the height of the turbine falls just below the requirements for the Airport's current instrument approaches; however, no assessments against the ILS had been conducted. The impact on the Radar was also unknown at the present time. Liaison would continue with Gloucester City Council. A member enquired why a wind turbine was being considered; the reply being that this was a Gloucester City Council proposal, not the Airport's.

The Airport Director mentioned that solar photo pv energy on the Airport site was being investigated.

The cycle to work scheme has entered its final stage and the Airport is hoping to sign up many of those who have expressed an interest.

A home/staff survey had been conducted with a view to encourage car sharing by members of Airport staff.

Replacement of lighting and heating with energy efficient units have been replaced in 60% of areas where appropriate

Since the start of the New Year the Airport has re-cycled approximately 250kg of paper and cardboard and 4kg of plastic. It is currently looking at their oil and filter re-cycling procedures with the aim of making them more efficient and economical.

Noise Complaints

It was reported that there had been 33 noise complaints during November, December and January made up as follows:

Bamfurlong Lane 27 Aircraft + 1 Helicopter

Tirley 1 Helicopter Boddington 1 Helicopter Staverton 3 Helicopters

There were 11639 movements from 18th November 2010 until 17th February 2011.

The Down Hatherley representative commented that since the meeting held with representatives from Down Hatherley and Airport Operators in November 2010, the noise level had reduced with a noticeable difference in the flight paths of the Aircraft and Helicopters. However, the scheduled service flight was still causing a problem. He went on to thank the Airport and Operators for the improvements. Head of Operations said he would issue reminders to Manx2.com.

Noise complaints data will be available on the Airport website as soon as a suitable format has been established.

Report of recent Planning Applications –

1. Jet Age Museum

Head of Operations was pleased to report that the Secretary of State had approved planning permission for the Jet Age Museum to be built on the north-west side of the Airfield, by the Meteor Business Park. Access to the Museum will be through the Meteor Business Park.

Whilst the Museum still requires further funding it is considering putting the building works back out to tender. The Airport indicated that it will continue to support and help raise funds where possible and consultants working for the Airport have also offered their assistance.

2. SE27 - There are no further developments to report.

3. Wind Farms -

The Airport stated that the proposed wind farm at Strensham may have an impact on the Radar system at the Airport. A member enquired how miles from the Airport wind farms may affect operations – the reply being that the Radar has a 20 mile radius and explained in detail the problems and effect wind turbines have on the Radar system.

A Forest of Dean application is in the early stages of assessment.

The Chaxhill site – nothing further has been heard.

Airport Security Situation –

Crime statistics from Gloucestershire Constabulary were issued to all attendees.

An enquiry as to what the miscellaneous items were revealed that these stats were for example speeding on the airport/unauthorised access etc.

The Airport Director mentioned that he had contacted the local police for a PCSO to attend if possible, but unfortunately they were still unable to commit at the present time.

Any Other Business -

- 1. The Committee was informed that Staverton Flying School is under new ownership and has moved into the Skypark hangar behind the Control Tower. The old flying school premises will be re-opening as a 'Microlight School' by the business currently operating from the Cotswold Aero Club.
- 2. The Chairman informed the Committee that Ray Darby had recently passed away, Ray was the longest serving Airport Manager and managed Gloucester Airport until it became a Public Limited Company. Ray was also responsible for establishing the Consultative Committee.
- 3. A discussion was had on the fact that the Airport receives many requests for charity prizes/donations and a suggestion that a 'charity committee' could be formed with representatives from tenants/operators on site, to collate all charity requests and work collectively. It was thought this could benefit both charities and the image of the company donating the prize. Head of Operations will put something in writing for consideration by the members

The meeting closed at 19.10

Date of next meeting: Thursday 19th May 2011 at 6 pm