

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2013

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

Present - 9 Members + Minute Secretary + 1 Representative of Gloucestershire Airport (GAL)

Apologies - received from 5 Members + 2 Representatives of Gloucestershire Airport (GAL)

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 15th August 2013 -

Following a minor amendment removing the word 'The', the minutes were approved by those present and signed by the Chairman.

The Chairman announced the news that Jim Meadows passed away on November 10th. She commented that Jim Meadows had been the first representative for Down Hatherley and continued to serve until the end of 2010. The funeral will be held at Down Hatherley Church on 26th November at 1200. The Chairman will attend and noted her thanks for his contributions over the years.

The Chairman also announced that Julie O'Neil had left the airport. Julie had been the minute secretary for the Consultative Committee since 2005 and the Chairman had emailed Julie to pass on the sincere thanks for all her work and best wishes for the future from the Consultative Committee Members.

Matters Arising –

Charity/Future Events:-

The "Ladies Fly In" held on September 28th raised £250 for the charity 'Fly2help'

Future Events for 2014 -

Travel and Leisure weekend – date to be confirmed for sometime in January

Jet Age Museum official opening on Friday 9th May

The Airport Charity Open day - provisional date 20th July

The Meteor Mile run to be held 6th September

The Project Propeller Fly In, organised for Flyer Magazine, will be held at Glos. Airport in 2014 - date to be confirmed

Consultative Committee Matters –

The Chairman announced that she was standing down at the AGM in February 2014 after being Chairman for 7 years and previously Vice Chairman for 15 years. The Airport has requested she remain as a committee member and the Members present endorsed this.

A new Chairman will need to be nominated in accordance with the Terms of Reference. A couple of people have indicated they may be prepared to stand. Any nominations/applications for the position are to be sent to the Chairman before the end of January 2014.

The Chairman was asked would she change her mind, the reply being that she felt it was time to stand down and allow someone else to take over; she will assist on the handover.

Whilst the Chairman should be someone independent from any direct involvement with the Airport, the Vice Chairman is usually a member of the committee.

The Chairman commented that the list of Committee contacts on the Airport Website link needs checking and updating.

A Member asked if the Terms of Reference (TOR) need updating

The Chairman explained that the Dept. for Transport (DFT) is currently reviewing all airports' TOR. The current TOR was put together with Committee approval from the 2007 guidelines.

Another Member queried who polices the TOR - The Chairman stated that it was a statutory requirement under the Civil Aviation Act to have a consultative committee and that guideline for all airports, with examples of good practice, is published by DFT. It was also noted that a Government white paper on the future of aviation proposed giving more scope for consultative committees to have more involvement in airport development etc.

The Airport is obliged to provide a meeting room, secretary, and reasonable expenses.

A new chairman may come in with new views.

Airport Tenants & Users Group

A brief discussion took place on the lack of activity of this 'group' and a note that this Consultative Committee had previously agreed to keep track of the funds, believed to be in the order of £1500-£1800. The Chairman agreed to contact a couple of the operators who were keen to keep the group going as a suggestion was made that these funds, if no longer required, could be put towards funding the memorial that has been suggested at previous meetings.

Airport Management Matters

i. Runway Safety Project update - The format has changed due to the Runway Safety Project being complete and fully operational.

The latest report commissioned from 'York Aviation for Gloucester City Council, has positive recommendations with both shareholders being recommended to keep the Airport and give it better support, to publically state their long term support for it, and give the organisation a better flexibility with additional support to the Board. Various areas of land on and in the vicinity of the Airport should be considered as potential development options.

The Board of Directors are very pleased and have also responded positively. Recommendations are currently going through the Council processes at Cheltenham and Gloucester. The document is not yet in the public domain.

The GAL representative announced that the Airport had been announced as the Best General Aviation Airport 2013 as voted by AOPA. The Committee fully endorsed the award.

ii. Environment Report

The JAWG have received the updated Green Policy at the end of October which reported -

A reduction in noise complaints

A reduction in aircraft CO₂ emissions

Albeit an increase in ground emissions mainly due to the bad winter weather of 2012/13

Regarding the 'Out of Hours' flights - there has been no alteration made to the Airport's opening hours.

Solar panels being used in the Car Park - this is an on-going project with Gloucester City and Tewkesbury Borough Council offering advice.

Cycles available for hire from the Terminal Building - the plan is to introduce this for visiting pilots for the summer 2014.

Noise Complaints

Since the last meeting there have been 36 complaints of which 31 from regular complainants

20 from 1 person in Bamfurlong; 11 from 1 person in Cheltenham;

The others were - 3 from Churchdown - all regarding a very early departure and 2 written complaints from Down Hatherley. (5 for helicopters, 21 for fixed wing and 11 for jets)

There were 19,500 movements in the period.

Report of recent Planning Applications

Wind Turbines - As there has been no apparent progress or update for a long time it was agreed to remove this item off the agenda.

There is currently an application for the expansion of Ashville Business Park at the end of runway 18, east of the current site. This will encroach on RWY 18/36 climb out and approach but is unlikely to affect operations.

The application for 58 dwellings at Twigworth has been turned down but is expected to go to appeal.

Airport Security Situation:

Since this meeting the Police representative has sent the following figures for the period since the last meeting in August -

Gloucestershire Airport - 0 reported crime; 1 reported incident (2132Hrs on 23.09.13 - A suspicious white van seen at the rear of Airport reported by employee of Goodrem Nicholson. Police attend and speak to the driver. No offences disclosed, all in order.) + 6 other reported incidents.

Anson Business Park - 0 reported crime; 1 reported incident.

Bamfurlong Industrial Park / Staverton Industrial Estate - 0 reported crime; 4 reported incidents.

Meteor Business Park - 0 reported crime; 11 reported incidents.

Any Other Business

Following a question on the Bamfurlong Lane Warning Signals for motorists it was explained how they would be activated by ATC when the visibility was below 5000 metres and an aircraft was making an instrument approach. The lights would then be triggered by any high sided vehicles.

A general discussion followed on the Joint Core Strategy proposals with various views being expressed.

The GAL representative commented that following Remembrance Service held recently at the Jet Age Museum it could be identified as a suitable location for the Memorial mentioned at previous meetings

It was reported that, since opening in August, there have been over 3300 visitors at the Jet Age museum with £12,500 received in donations and sales in the shop and café. There are 65 volunteers It is now open every Saturday and Sunday 10-4pm except for the weekend after Christmas

A Member asked whether the figures had reached the anticipated target the reply being far more visitors than expected.

The Jet Age Museum representative invited the Committee to use the Museum café area as the venue for our February 2014 meeting which was agreed by all present. It may subsequently be considered as a suitable venue for future meetings.

It was also confirmed the official opening was 9th May and all Committee members are invited.

A Member asked for clarification of the reporting, at the last meeting, of 5% growth in airport traffic - It was confirmed that this increase was in the Commercial/Business aviation sector.

The meeting closed at 1935

Date of next meeting: AGM - Thursday 20th February 2014 at 6 pm