

## EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE GROUP

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE GROUP

HELD AT EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON WEDNESDAY, 4 JUNE 2008

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Mr R Stuart (Chairman) Councillor N Pring (Vice Chairman)	East Devon Business Forum Clyst Honiton Parish Council
	Mr J Christon Mr G Holley Councillor N Finnegan Councillor I Holmes Councillor B Limb Councillor J Smith Councillor Miss S Randall Johnson Mr M A R Heald Mr N Heald Councillor D Axford	EDAL Flybe Aylesbeare Parish Council Ottery St Mary Town Council Woodbury Parish Council Farringdon Parish Council Flybe Exeter Flying Club Exeter Flying Club Bishops Clyst Parish Council#
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Councillor B Nicholson Mr J Spooner Mr T Salter Mrs S Coward Mrs M Trigger	East Devon District Council EDAL Farringdon House Committee Aylesbeare Parish Council Rockbeare Parish Council

The meeting started at 2.15 pm and ended at 3.20 pm.

#### \*1 **Election of Chairman**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor RAR Stuart be elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

#### \*2 **Appointment of Vice Chairman**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor N Pring be appointed Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

#### \*3 **Appointment of Secretary**

**RESOLVED** that East Devon District Council be invited to continue to provide the secretary to service the Consultative Group meetings for the ensuing year.

#### \*4 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 March 2008 were confirmed and signed as a true record, subject to the addition of Mr T Salter to those present.

#### \*5 **Matters Arising**

World Environment Day Campaign (min no \*25 refers)

Members noted that Jamie Christon, Deputy Managing Director, EDAL, had contacted the Environment Agency again with regard to the World Environment Day Campaign. The Environment Agency had replied to say that the Environment Agency South West would not be taking part in the World Environment Day Campaign, but would be doing something involving Airports later in the year.

#### \*5 **Master Plan for Exeter International Airport**

The Consultative Group noted that the Master Plan had now been completed. It was anticipated that it would be sent out for public consultation in the third or fourth week of June

\*5 **Master Plan for Exeter International Airport (Cont)**

and in any case it needed to be issued before the start of the summer school holidays. There would be a 12 week consultation period and exhibitions would be held at the Airport terminal, Broadclyst, Exeter Riverside, Ottery St Mary, Exeter Civic Centre, Honiton and then back to the Airport. Members noted that finding venues to host the exhibitions had been difficult.

Jamie Christon, Deputy Managing Director, confirmed that all of the Consultative Group would get a copy of the Master Plan before the launch date. The content was little changed to that presented to the Consultative Group at its special meeting on 16 January 2008. 2500 copies of the Master Plan would be printed and it would also be available to download on the Exeter International Airport website. If members of the Consultative Group had any comments they wished to make they could be fed into the next meeting to be held on 6 August. It was confirmed that Clive Coleman, Jamie Christon or John Spooner would be available to answer individual questions from members of the Consultative Group on the Master Plan at any time after its issue.

\*6 **Civil Aviation Act 2006 – Implementation of new powers**

Consideration was given to a letter received from the Department for Transport on the Civil Aviation Act 2006 – implementation of new powers. Members noted that the Department of Transport was currently conducting a review as to the extent to which airports had identified a need to implement any of the new powers they were given on noise and emission controls provided by the Civil Aviation Act 2006, which came into force in March 2007.

Members noted that airports were now able to charge airlines who operated less environmentally friendly aircraft. Andy Barton, Operations Manager, confirmed that no further steps had been taken to charge operators at Exeter Airport. Flybe aircraft were amongst the quietest and most environmentally friendly in the industry. A question was asked over whether the Royal Mail could be asked to provide newer and quieter planes on their night mail flights.

Councillor J Smith enquired whether it would be possible to put details of noise monitoring reports on future agendas of the Consultative Group. Andy Barton, Operations Manager, confirmed that noise monitoring reports were not currently produced. However, the Airport would consider their production in the future.

**RESOLVED**

1. that the report be noted;
2. that Andy Barton, Operations Manager, be requested to enquire whether Royal Mail would consider introducing, quieter more environmentally friendly planes on its night flights from Exeter International Airport.

\*7 **Effect of the new Ground Engine Running Shield**

Members discussed the effectiveness of the new Ground Engine Running Shield and noted the delay in the production of a report on its effectiveness which was due to a delay in the Airport receiving relevant information. It was confirmed that Clive Coleman would write to Rockbeare Parish Council regarding the proposals to improve the situation and this letter would be attached to these minutes.

**RESOLVED**

that the report be noted.

**\*8 Report of the Managing Director**

Consideration was given to the verbal report of Jamie Christon, Deputy Managing Director, EDAL.

The Consultative Group noted that since the last meeting, despite unfavourable economic conditions, the airport was holding its own, with traffic numbers similar to 2007. Although domestic traffic was down, charter traffic was holding up well. International scheduled traffic had also done well. This had gone against the trend of many other airports, which had shown a reduction in passenger movements. Mr Christon praised the flexibility of airport staff in helping the airport adapt to market conditions.

Mr Christon reported that the Balfour Beatty Group had purchased outright Blackpool Airport, which had a throughput of 500,000 passengers per annum. It was anticipated that there would be opportunities for synergy between Exeter and Blackpool and the lessons learnt by managers in Exeter could help the Blackpool operations. In addition, in recent months there had been 8 military flights bringing in troops returning from Afghanistan via Cyprus. The website had been updated from last Tuesday and the Airport branding had also been updated, as members would have noticed from the outside of the terminal building. Work had also been completed on the terminal frontage and planters cemented in. Travellex had taken over the Foreign Exchange service in the terminal and were reporting good business.

The recent bomb explosion in Exeter had affected the Airport, who had put their contingency plan in place and the security rating had gone to critical. However, there had been no adverse effect on the operations of the airport with all planes leaving on schedule.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted;

**\*9 Complaints Handling**

Andy Barton, Operations Manager, had reported that there had been a total of 7 specific noise complaints. Of these specific complaints, 2 related to military activities outside the Airport's control. These people had been referred to the military flying complaints number. Of those that took place in the Airports control zone, one was concerning an aircraft flying right hand circuits, another was from Marsh Green concerning an aircraft departing off runway 08 and arriving onto 26. Another was from a West Hill resident concerning aircraft possibly changing flight paths and turning earlier, one was a concern over the number of departures and departure routes over Whimple. The last complaint was from West Hill and concerned the Lamaca flight, whose departure had been delayed until 3.00 am, due to operational problems on the aircrafts other flights earlier in the day.

Members noted that considering the number of aircraft movements at Exeter International Airport, that this was a very low level of complaints.

Councillor J Smith reported that he had tried to use the Airport's complaints procedure at 9.40pm on a Friday evening, this had been due to noisy engine testing. However, although ringing several numbers he had not been able to get a reply. Andy Barton replied that Flybe engine testing was permitted between 0630 and 2230 and that the airport was manned until 0200. He suggested that Councillor Smith send in a letter of complaint concerning this incident.

Councillor I Holmes accepted that the Airport was doing it best to minimise disturbance to local residents. A concern of local residents was any increase to night flights. Jamie Christon reported that the Airport did not want to increase its night flights, which would bring an increase in operating costs, but wished to fill in its daytime troughs in traffic.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

\*10 **Any other business**

Red Arrows

In response to a question, members noted that the Red Arrows would be visiting Exeter International Airport during August, However, due to military cutbacks they would not be doing as many displays as in previous years. Details of their visits would be put on the website.

\*11 **Date of the next meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the next ordinary meeting of the Consultative Group be held on Wednesday, 6 August 2008, commencing at 2.15 pm.

Chairman ..... Date .....