

EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE GROUP

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE GROUP

HELD AT EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON WEDNESDAY, 11 AUGUST 2010

PRESENT:	Councillor Nick Pring (Chairman)	Clyst Honiton Parish Council
	Councillor Jack Smith (Vice Chairman)	Farringdon Parish Council
	Jamie Christon	EDAL
	Andy Barton	EDAL
	Clive Coleman	EDAL
	Councillor Noel Finegan	Aylesbeare Parish Council
	Councillor Ian Holmes	Ottery St Mary Town Council
	Councillor Sara Randall Johnson	Flybe
	Gary Holley	Flybe
	Rufus Heald	Exeter Flying Club
	Councillor Andrew Dinnis	East Devon District Council
	Councillor Dave Miller	Rockbeare Parish Council
	Councillor Richard Bartlett	Woodbury Parish Council
	Councillor Don Axford	Bishops Clyst Parish Council
	Roy Stuart	East Devon Business Forum
	Chris Lane	East Devon District Council
APOLOGIES:	Councillor Stella Brock	Exeter City Council
	Stephen Wiltshire	EDAL
	Councillor Alan Moorshead	Broadclyst Parish Council

The meeting started at 2.15 pm and ended at 3.00 pm.

*1 **Election of Chairman**

RESOLVED that Councillor Nick Pring be elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

*2 **Appointment of Vice Chairman**

RESOLVED that Councillor Jack Smith 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 year.

*4 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 19 May 2010 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

*5 **Report of the Managing Director**

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

The Consultative Group noted that the performance of the Airport continued to suffer due to the unfavourable economic conditions which had mirrored the performance of the aircraft industry and the country as a whole. Passenger numbers had reduced by 7% in May, 12% behind budget. Much of this reduction had been due to periods of airspace closure at the beginning of the month coupled with damaged consumer confidence. Passenger numbers in June were similar to those for 2009. There had been a 14% growth in charter performance against last year but an 8% decrease in scheduled traffic. However, overall traffic numbers for

*5 **Report of the Managing Director** (Cont)

July were lower than anticipated as a result of continuing poor load factors on domestic and some scheduled routes. The lower passenger numbers were put down to factors such as the good weather, "staycation" and the World Cup. It was hoped that this decrease had now plateaued and that passenger numbers would remain more constant. There was however, still an element of caution in the market which was expected to be challenging in the winter and going into 2011.

Jamie Christon, Managing Director, reported that preparations were being made for the publication of the summer 2011 programme with discussions ongoing with operators/airlines. The Group had won a management contract as preferred bidders to manage the City of Derry Airport for a ten year period. The Airport Management had also won a new three year contract with Royal Mail. This included handling mail from Bristol and would involve increasing screening volumes. Master planning for both the north side and south side developments had also started.

Members of the Consultative Group noted that there had been further contractual progress with the development of the hotel and a contract had been exchanged with a national hotel group. This would include the provision of a standalone restaurant. Progress on the building of the Flybe Academy continued. Jamie Christon reported that a Group Property Manager had been appointed who would look after the property portfolio for all three of the Airports in the group. Also tenders were due for the advertising contract, fuel procurement, with car hire to follow.

Members noted that the Red Arrows would be taking off from Exeter International Airport at 3.00pm that afternoon.

RESOLVED that the report be noted;

*6 **Complaints Handling**

Andy Barton, Operations Manager reported that there had been one complaint received since the last meeting. This had been from a new resident of Ottery St Mary who had not expected aircraft from the Airport to fly over the town. With regard to the complaint discussed at the last meeting which concerned a loud engine noise coming from the Airport at 10.05pm on Tuesday 11 May 2010. This matter had been investigated and it was found to be within the published hours agreed as part of the policy and the Aircraft had been testing and due for service the following morning.

Members received a letter from a resident of St Leonards, Exeter regarding noise from incoming passenger aircraft which she regarded to be unacceptably loud and low, when the wind was in the east. Andy Barton, Operations Manager, agreed to investigate this matter and write a letter of explanation to the concerned complainant.

RESOLVED

1. that the report be noted;
2. that Andy Barton write a letter of explanation to the resident of St Leonards, Exeter regarding the noise she had experienced from low flying Aircraft.

*7 **Any other business**

Thanks to Roy Stuart

Members expressed their thanks to Roy Stuart for his Chairmanship of the Exeter International Airport Consultative Group over many years and hoped he would still be available to attend meetings.

Concerns from Rockbeare Parish Council about what and how noise was measured

Councillor Dave Millar from Rockbeare Parish Council reported that the following dates had been suggested for a meeting on what noise data was collected and reported – Wednesday 25 August at 10am or 3pm or Wednesday 8 September, not between 11am and 1pm. Clive Coleman, Development Director, EDAL reported that he was available for a meeting at 10am on 25 August and at all times on 8 September.

Free car parking in Car Park 1

Councillor Ian Holmes, Ottery St Mary Town Council reported that concern had been expressed to him that the 10 minutes free parking time in Car Park 1 was too short for delivery and collection of passengers. Jamie Christon, Managing Director, EDAL confirmed that Car Park 1 cost a lot to maintain due to the high throughput of passengers and members of the public, that the Airport had regularly spent sums repairing damage and needed an income from the car park to pay for this and recent improvements made, such as the installation of new barriers. He confirmed that Bristol Airport charged £4 after the first free ten minutes, not the £2 that Exeter Airport charged.

*8 **Date of the next meeting**

RESOLVED that the next ordinary meeting of the Consultative Group be held on Wednesday, 10 November 2010, commencing at 2.15 pm.

Chairman Date