

EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE GROUP

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE GROUP HELD AT EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON WEDNESDAY, 4 APRIL 2012

PRESENT: Councillor Nick Pring (Chairman) Clyst Honiton Parish Council
Councillor Jack Smith (Vice Chairman) Farrington Parish Council

Matt Roach	EDAL
Stephen Wiltshire	EDAL
Chris Lane	East Devon District Council
Councillor Noel Finnigan	Aylesbeare Parish Council
Councillor Ian Holmes	Ottery St Mary Town Council
Councillor Dave Millar	Rockbeare Parish Council
Councillor Richard Bartlett	Woodbury Parish Council
Councillor Jo Talbot	Ottery St Mary Town Council
Rufus Heald	Exeter Airport User
Councillor Phil Twiss	East Devon District Council
Gary Holley	Flybe
Sara Randall Johnson	Flybe

APOLOGIES: Roy Stuart East Devon Business Forum

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

*26 **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all members to the meeting.

*27 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 11 January 2012, were confirmed and signed as a true record.

*28 **Matters Airing**

Matters Arising (Minute *19 of 11 January 2012 refers)

Councillor Richard Bartlett expressed some concern about the potential impact on the Airport of Flybe's low share price. Stephen Wiltshire Operations Director, EDAL, confirmed that 2012 continued to be a tough market for aviation and the travel industry as a whole.

*29 **Addendum to the Master Plan** (Minute *20 of 11 January 2012 refers)

Councillor Richard Bartlett, reported on his concern of the proposal in the Addendum that land close to the Airport be used for employment use, which may have a future adverse effect on Airport operations. He also raised the issue of the accuracy of the proposed employment figures contained in the Addendum, that maybe generated by Airport expansion. These issues were linked with the Local Plan that was being considered by East Devon District Council and would be reconsidered in May 2012.

*29 **Addendum to the Master Plan (Cont)**

- RESOLVED**
1. that further consideration of the Addendum to the Master Plan be delayed until the June meeting of the Consultative Group, when further details of the EDDC Local Plan would be known;
 2. that Councillor Richard Bartlett be requested to submit any questions he had in writing before the next meeting of the Consultative Group.

*30 **Sustainability**

Stephen Wiltshire, Operations Director, gave a presentation to the Consultative Group on Sustainability issues for the Airport. The presentation had been prepared by the Sustainability Manager at Balfour Beatty. Members noted that the Airport had agreed a Sustainability Action Plan and Vision for the future. Recycling was an important measure and recycling bins had been installed around the Airport buildings.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

*31 **Report of the Managing Director**

Consideration was given to the verbal report of Matt Roach, Managing Director, EDAL.

The Consultative Group noted that overall performance continued to be disappointing against the budget. However, Passenger traffic had increased slightly during the period. Traffic numbers in December were 4% above last year and 2% up on January last year, but all below budget. Scheduled domestic passenger traffic had increased in December and January which was an encouraging sign. February had shown a reduction due to the loss of several charter and scheduled routes, combined with fog interrupting flights at the end of the month. March figures were expected to show an increase on the same month in 2011, which was encouraging.

Charter passenger figures were disappointing due to the loss of flights to Chambéry, Funchal and Innsbruck. There were however, additional flights to Sharm El Sheikh.

The World War 2 Memorial that had been erected at the entrance to the Airport had been well received by visitors to the Airport. The reintroduction of the Norwich service by Loganair was successful with an 80% load factor that day's flight. Work on the Hotel had restarted and it was hoped it would be completed in December/January. This would be the first phase, of 120 bedrooms. Matt Roach reported on the refurbishment undertaken over recent months which would provide Airport users with improved facilities.

In response to a question on what fees per passenger the Airport achieved, Matt Roach, Managing Director EDAL replied that this was commercially sensitive information. The Airport was looking into making the Airport a separate destination for the non flyer, which may include the reinstatement of a viewing area, which had been removed when the restaurant had gone airside. Members noted that Devon County Council were looking at improved signage for the cycle path which had been built through Car Park 3.

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

Matt Roach, Managing Director EDAL reported that the Thomson 737-800 aircraft would be based at the Airport. He also confirmed that there were no plans at present for an extension to the runway. Sara Randall Johnson, Flybe invited Consultative Group members to visit the Flybe Training Academy after the meeting and also offered to host the next meeting of the Consultative Group at a room in the Flybe Training Academy, subject to room availability.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

*32 **Complaints Handling**

Stephen Wiltshire, Operations Director, EDAL, reported that there had been one complaint received since the last meeting. The complaint was from a resident of Water Lane, Exeter. It concerned a low flying noisy aircraft at 2am on 21 March 2012. It was believed to be a Royal Mail aircraft on the easterly runway.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

*33 **Date of the next meeting**

RESOLVED that the next ordinary meeting of the Consultative Group be held on Wednesday, 20 June 2012, commencing at 2.15 pm. To be held in the Flybe Training Academy, subject to room availability.

Chairman Date