

## EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE GROUP

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

HELD AT EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON WEDNESDAY, 9 JANUARY 2013

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Councillor Nick Pring (Chairman)	Clyst Honiton Parish Council
	Councillor Dave Miller (Vice Chairman)	Rockbeare Parish Council
	Matt Roach	EDAL
	Stephen Wiltshire	EDAL
	Chris Lane	East Devon District Council
	Councillor Noel Finegan	Aylesbeare Parish Council
	Councillor Jo Talbot	Ottery St Mary Town Council
	Rufus Heald	Exeter Airport User
	Sara Randall Johnson	Flybe
	Councillor Don Axford	Bishops Clyst Parish Council
	Richard Bartlett	Woodbury Parish Council
	Councillor Phil Twiss	East Devon District Council
	Roy Stuart	East Devon Business Forum
	Councillor Ian Holmes	Ottery St Mary Town Council
	Gary Holley	Flybe
	Angela Fletcher	Farringdon Parish Council
	Richard Bristow	Aviation South West
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Richard Cohen	EDDC
	Councillor Derek Button	Broadclyst Parish Council

The meeting started at 2.15 pm and ended at 3.15 pm.

\*19 **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all members to the meeting.

\*20 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 September 2012, were confirmed and signed as a true record.

\*21 **Report of the Managing Director**

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

The Consultative Group noted that overall performance continued to be disappointing against the budget. Passenger traffic was down 6% in August, 10% down in September, and 8% down in October against the previous year. However, November had shown an increase of 15% against the previous year. Early indications were that passenger numbers would be up in December on 2011. Passenger numbers were 691,000 in total which was 7% down on 2011. There was evidence of passenger numbers stabilising and the Group noted the reduction in passenger numbers at Airports such as Newquay and Cardiff and the industry as a whole.

\*21 **Report of the Managing Director (Cont)**

Members noted that Flybe was introducing new routes to Nice and Barcelona which it was hoped would book well. However, the Transat direct Toronto service, which had operated out of Exeter for the last 20 years had now been cancelled and replaced by a connecting service to Manchester which then flew onto Toronto.

Matt Roach reported that the new Hotel was planned to open on 1 March 2013 with 120 rooms. A safety visit from Balfour Beatty Directors to the Airport had been held and had confirmed that the Airport's safety performance continued to be very good. Good progress had been made on building the Fire Service and the Police Helicopter station at the Airport was also progressing well.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**\*22 Severe Noise Disruption in Farringdon 1 – 6 October**

The Consultative Group received a letter of complaint about severe noise disruption in Farringdon between 1 and 6 October 2012 from vehicles on the B3184. Subsequently an email was received complaining about further overnight disruption between 7 – 9 and 12 – 17 November. The complaint claimed that this was due to heavy goods vehicles/lorries on Airport business at the time of the partial closure of the A30 at Junction 29 of the M5. The Group noted that there had been a number of Royal Mail vehicles the using the B3184 as a diversionary route during that evening.

Members noted that Stephen Ayres, Communications Officer at the Airport, had spoken to the complainant who had been satisfied with this response. She had been advised to contact the Airport if it happened again.

**\*23 Complaints Handling**

Stephen Wiltshire, Operations Director, EDAL, reported that there had been seven complaints received since the last meeting. The first was from Dawlish concerning low flying aircraft waking up a couple in the early hours of the morning. The next concerned a resident of Clyst Honiton regarding the increasing incidents of planes landing and taking off overnight. The third concerned a resident of St Leonards who was woken up by low flying aircraft.

The fourth complaint was from a resident of Colyton regarding a perceived increase in air traffic near their property. The fifth complaint was regarding two flights landing early in the early hours. The sixth was more of an enquiry and concerned two jet aeroplanes passing over their property at 2.00am on 19 December 2012. The last complaint concerned a low flying aircraft at Kingskerswell. The CAA had been contacted as it had not been operating from Exeter Airport. All complainants had been written to and an explanation given.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

\*24 **Any other business**

Airport Master Plan

Richard Bartlett representing Woodbury Parish Council requested that the passenger growth predictions contained in the Draft Master Plan (2008) and Addendum (2011) be carefully examined. He noted that there was increasing divergence between the passenger growth predictions and the actual number of passengers using the Airport. He expressed concern about the effect this would have on employment forecasts in the Local Plan and in particular the requirement for Woodbury Parish to have 35 new homes built within its boundaries.

Richard Bartlett requested that the Master Plan be updated in the light of the recent lower passenger predictions. Matt Roach, Managing Director, EDAL reported that he worked closely with EDDC, with updating them, on current trading and performance forecasts passenger numbers. He had also submitted updated information on passenger numbers to the Department for Transport. Matt Roach did not feel that the changes in Airport passenger figures had a significant effect on Government demand for jobs and houses, particularly with the likely development of Sky Park and the Science Park. A revised Master Plan would be prohibitively costly for the Airport at the present time.

Photovoltaic Cells

David Millar, Rockbeare Parish Council, asked whether the Airport had experienced any problems with glare from photovoltaic cells. Stephen Wiltshire, Operations Director replied that none had been experienced so far. Each planning application for a photovoltaic cell farm in the Airports area would be assessed on its merits.

Clyst Honiton Bypass

Roy Stuart, East Devon Business Forum, asked whether the tunnel covering the part of the Clyst Honiton bypass adjacent to the end of the runway covered the slew angle of planes. Stephen Wiltshire replied that the CAA had been happy with the design and that it met all safety requirements.

\*25 **Date of the next meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the next ordinary meeting of the Consultative Group be held on Wednesday, 10 April 2013, commencing at 2.15 pm.

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