

## EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE GROUP

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE GROUP HELD AT FLYBE TRAINING ACADEMY ON WEDNESDAY, 19 JUNE 2013

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Richard Bartlett (Chairman)	Woodbury Parish Council
	Matt Roach	EDAL
	Gary Holley	Flybe
	Councillor Phil Twiss	East Devon District Council
	Chris Lane	East Devon District Council
	Stephen Wiltshire	EDAL
	Councillor Martin Thurgood	Ottery St Mary Town Council
	Councillor Ian Holmes	Ottery St Mary Town Council
	Councillor Don Axford	Bishops Clyst Parish Council
	Councillor Noel Finnigan	Aylesbeare Parish Council
	Roy Stuart	East Devon Business Group
	Angela Fletcher	Farringdon Parish Council
	Angie Hurren	Broadclyst Parish Council
	Lynne Askew	Clyst Honiton Parish Council
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Councillor David Miller	Rockbeare Parish Council
	Rufus Heald	Airport User

The meeting started at 3.15 pm and ended at 4.25 pm.

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

Members noted that former Group Chairman Nick Pring had resigned from the Group as he was no longer a Clyst Honiton Parish Councillor.

**RESOLVED** that Richard Bartlett be elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

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

**RESOLVED** that in his absence Councillor Dave Miller 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 10 April 2013 were confirmed and signed as a true record. Richard Bartlett pointed out that 1,056 people were in employment directly related to the Airport.

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

There were no matters arising.

\*6 **Report of the Managing Director**

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

The Consultative Group noted that passenger traffic for March was 45,285, 7% down on budget and 2% down on 2012. April showed an improvement in passenger numbers, with 53,185 passengers, this was a 4% increase on forecast and a 2% increase on 2012. The passenger figures for May had also shown an increase with 75,649 passengers, representing a 6% increase on budget and a 6% increase on 2012. These improved passenger figures were due to a number of factors, including increased load factors to destinations such as Barcelona and Manchester. Charter flights had also seen increased load factors. Members noted that there were additional flights to the Isles of Scilly and also additional international scheduled passenger flights to Alicante, Faro, Malaga and the new service to Barcelona and Nice.

Matt Roach Managing Director, EDAL reported that there were extra charter flights booked for the rest of the summer and that there were a number of positive trends emerging.

The Hotel had opened at the end of April and was understood to be receiving good bookings. The Devon & Cornwall Police Service (DCPS) helicopter relocation and construction of the Devon & Somerset Fire Service training ground was proceeding well and both should be open soon. The Heart of the South West LEP had formed a Transport Group and was discussing the impact on aviation of the air passenger duty. Discussions were also being held on the Davies Commission.

Members noted that the Airport was talking to Plymouth Chamber of Commerce about making Exeter Airport the Airport of choice for the South West. There was a new series of charter flights to new destination planned for Thompson (Tui) from the Airport for 2014. Lastly, the Airport had been represented at Devon County Show and a number of other local events.

In response to a question from District Cllr Phil Twiss about the success of new routes and the possibility of speaking to operators about introducing new routes. Matt Roach, managing Director EDAL, advised that the Airport was continually speaking to various operators to introduce new routes. There was a lot of route development activity discussion within the Airport in order to increase flights and destinations.

Roy Stuart expressed the concerns of the business community about potential delays to developments within the East of Exeter area and also the loss of jobs caused by Flybe redundancies. He hoped that the land on the north side of the Airport would be retained for future Airport expansion.

Roy Stuart reported that on a recent flight to Malaga he had found that customs staff at Exeter Airport were friendly and efficient.

The Group wished to reiterate their continued support for Exeter International Airport.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted;

**\*8 Complaints Handling**

Stephen Wiltshire, Operations Director reported that there had been four complaints received since the last meeting. There had been two complaints from the St Leonards area, concerning an increase in the frequency of flying and noisy Royal Mail flights. The third complaint was from Birchy Barton Hill, Exeter and concerned more noise than usual from low flying aircraft during the night and an increase in air traffic. The final complaint concerned a RAF Tornado aircraft which flew low over the Pathfinder Village at 7pm, this complaint was referred to the Military Authorities. All complainants had been written to.

Angie Hurren, Clerk to Broadclyst Parish Council reported that residents of Cranbrook had expressed concern about an increase in flights over their property of the DCPS helicopter. Stephen Wilshire, Operations Director, reported that when the helicopter moved to the Airport permanently the helicopter would use the runway and standard flight patterns. He confirmed that the Royal Mail flights were on the arrivals and departures page on the Airport's website.

The Consultative Group congratulated the Airport Management Team on the low level of complaints for the period.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted;

**\*9 Any other business**

Clyst Honiton by-pass

Councillor Lynne Askew, Clyst Honiton Parish Council asked when the Clyst Honiton by-pass would open? Members noted that the road tarmac work had been paid for by the Section 106 money from the developers, including Sainsbury's. The contractors were still working on the by-pass, sorting out details, including signage and it was hoped that it would open shortly.

**\*10 Date of the next meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the next ordinary meeting of the Consultative Group be held on Wednesday, 11 September 2013, commencing at 3.15 pm.

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