

EXETER AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXETER AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE HELD AT AIRPORT HOUSE BOARD ROOM, EXETER AIRPORT ON WEDNESDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2017

PRESENT:	Richard Bartlett (Chairman)	Woodbury Parish Council
	Chris Lane	EDDC
	John Smith	EDDC
	Matt Roach	EDAL
	Ian Holmes	Ottery St Mary Town Council
	Andy Wood	EEDGP
	Maureen Gori-De-Murden	Exeter City Council
	Denise Dyer	Aylesbeare Parish Council
	Don Axford	Bishops Clyst Parish Council
	Sam Thomas	EDDC

APOLOGIES	Ray Bloxham	Cranbrook Town Council
	Pete Edwards	Exeter City Council
	Josefina Gori	Ottery St Mary Town Council
	Gary Holley	Flybe
	Phil Twiss	EDDC
	Angela Fletcher	Farringdon Parish Council
	Lynne Askew	Clyst Honiton Parish Council
	Hayden Lister	Flybe
	Ian Payne	DAAT

The meeting started at 3.15 pm and ended at 4.15 pm.

- *31 Chairman's remarks
The Chairman welcomed all members to the meeting of the Consultative Committee.
- *32 Minutes
The minutes of the meeting held on the 20 September 2017, were confirmed and signed as a true record.
- *33 Matters Arising
Richard Bartlett, Chairman, reported that he had received 4 planning applications for Cranbrook, but none that directly affected the Airport. He confirmed that he would not be seeking re-election as Chair after May 2018 and asked that members consider the appointment of a new Chairman. It was noted that the meeting due to be held on 9 May would be held at the Flybe Academy and would include a talk on the 'Greater Exeter Plan' by Simon Thornley from Teignbridge District Council. The Chairman asked members to invite other parish councillors and interested parties if they wished to attend.

- *34 Presentation on the Cranbrook DPD and key proposals for the Enterprise Zone

Andy Wood, East of Exeter Project Director, gave a presentation on the Cranbrook DPD and key proposals for the Enterprise Zone. Members noted consultation on the Master Plan had started on 10 November 2017 and was due to end on the 8 January 2018. So far there had been 1,700 homes built and there were 3,500 homes with planning permission. When completed Cranbrook would be a town of 20,000 people.

Andy Wood, East of Exeter Projects Director, was thanked for his presentation.

- *35 Noise report for the Airport
John Smith, Environmental Health Officer, reported that there was no further noise issues to update the Committee on.

- *36 Report of the Managing Director
Consideration was given to the report of Matt Roach, Managing Director, EDAL.

The Consultative Committee noted that passenger numbers for September 2017 were 89,478 which was 28 passengers less than 2016, and 2% down on budget. However, October passenger numbers were 85,128, 10% up on the figures in the same month in 2016. November was looking to be 12% up on 2016. The trend to increase numbers on domestic passenger flights had continued, but there was also some increases in numbers on sun routes.

Matt Roach, Managing Director EDAL, reported that the runway resurfacing project had started on 4 November and was progressing well with lots of preparation work undertaken. A Disability Forum had been established for passengers with reduced mobility and other hidden issues.

Discussions continued regarding Long Lane improvements and there had been a number of meetings held to improve the bus service around the Airport. There had also been Highway enforcement work regarding the amount of cars picking up and dropping off around the Airport.

RESOLVED that the report be noted;

- *37 Report from Flybe representative
Paul Willoughby had given his apologies and reported that the new Director of Communications, Simon McNamara had agreed to attend future meetings. Paul Willoughby had sent the following update:

- 1st Half Year results posted pre-tax profit dropped 47.2% to £8.4m, largely due to the previously-announced one-off onerous IT contract provision and the impact of increased aircraft maintenance costs
- Flybe UK saw total revenue rise 11.6% to £406.8m, with 3% growth in seat capacity and an 8.8% jump in passenger volumes to 5.2m. Flybe Aviation services also saw an 11.6% increase in revenue, to £26.6m.
- Load factor - which gauges how full the planes are - improved to 76% from 72% in the first half of last year
- Fleet size is being brought under control and this will further strengthen load factors
- New Franchise agreement signed with Eastern Airways (replacing a long standing agreement with Loganair)

- Exeter routes continue to perform well with encouraging load factors during the Winter including sun routes
- Summer flights are now on sale up and including the 9th Sept 2018, well ahead of previous years
- Operational performance has not been as high as we would hope but this Summer's flights have been affected by continued ATC delays (and strikes) and poor weather towards the end of Summer
- A new CFO has already been appointed and our new CCO joins the company in the New Year
- Flybe is disappointed that the Chancellor has once again missed the opportunity to lower Air Passenger Duty. The UK's APD is among the highest in the world and it is a highly damaging tax which penalises domestic travellers. Reducing APD and supporting domestic aviation would have been in line with the Government's stated aim of spreading economic growth more evenly across the UK - this is sadly another missed opportunity to act.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

*38 Complaints Handling

There had been two complaints that had been received. One from Whimple regarding a Royal Mail flight. The second was from Cranbrook concerning ground engine running. There had also been concern from Aylesbeare Parish Council regarding noise from light aircraft. All complaints had been acknowledged and responded to.

*39 Date of the next meeting

RESOLVED that the ordinary meetings of the Consultative Committee in 2018 be held on Wednesdays, 21 February, 9 May, 11 July and 5 December.

Chairman Date