

EXETER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXETER AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE HELD AT MEETING ROOM, EXETER AIRPORT ON WEDNESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2019

PRESENT:	Richard Bartlett (Chairman)	Woodbury Parish Council
	Angela Fletcher (Vice Chairman)	Farringdon Parish Council
	Hannah Foster	Flybe
	Councillor Phil Skinner	EDDC
	Councillor Eleanor Rylance	EDDC
	Councillor Jeremy Wollen	Rockbeare Parish Council
	Matt Roach	EDAL
	Councillor Ian Holmes	Ottery St Mary Town Council
	Councillor Chris Daly	Aylesbeare Parish Council
	Councillor Phil Twiss	DCC
	Andy Wood	EEDGP
	Chris Lane	East Devon District Council
	Dave Montgomery	Clyst Honiton CHCA
	Councillor Christopher Hall	West Hill Parish Council
	Les Bayliss	Cranbrook Town Council
	Janet Wallace	EDDC EHO
	Councillor A P Bartlett	Ottery St Mary Town Council
APOLOGIES	Councillor Henry Gent	Broadclyst Parish Council
	Ian Payne	DAAT
	Andy Carmichael	EDDC Planning
	Councillor Chris Scanes	Bishops Clyst Parish Council
	Angie Hurren	Broadclyst Parish Council
	Victoria Hatfield/Rosie Bates	Exeter City Council

The meeting started at 3.15 pm and ended at 4.35 pm.

- 46 Chairman's remarks
The Chairman welcomed all members to the meeting of the Consultative Committee.
- 47 Minutes
The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 December 2018, were confirmed and signed as a true record.
- 48 Declarations of interest
Councillor Phil Twiss – Minute 52
Interest: Disclosable Pecuniary Interest
Reason: Owns a travel business
- 49 Matters Arising
The Chairman reported that he had received details of two planning applications, one of which was for a residential site which did not affect the Airport and the other for a site at the Science Park, which was in the safeguarding area.
- 50 Report from Flybe representative
Hannah Foster, Director of People, Flybe reported, that a lot had happened since the last meeting. On 11 January an offer had been made for the business from a Consortium of Cyrus Capital, Virgin Atlantic and the Stobart Group, which was for 1p

per share, and included a £20M cash injection and £80M investment. The new company would be called Connect Airways and would consist of Flybe, Stobart Air and Pribius (the leasing business of Stobart). It would be a Virgin branded business. The Board had recommended this be accepted, however there were concerns from card acquirer that the deal might be rejected by Shareholders.

As a result the Board agreed to more quickly sell all assets within Flybe plc (i.e. Flybe Ltd and Flybe.com) to the Consortium as a direct sale of the assets in Flybe PLC. This deal was subject to EU derogation approval and the date for completion was 22 February 2019. This would then be followed by a period where the businesses would still have to operate separately until the EU competition approval comes through.

In response to a question, Hannah Foster, Director of People, Flybe reported that it was anticipated that the closed defined benefit pension scheme which very few existing employees are a member of would be protected and the Consortium has stated a commitment to continuing employment at Exeter. Connect Airways would be a separate business with 40% owned by Cyrus Capital, 30% by Virgin Atlantic and 30% Stobart Group. This deal was felt to be the best option for a viable future business.

Hannah Foster, Director of People, Flybe confirmed that the Flybe name would disappear and be rebranded Virgin. The Board had declared that no Flybe Executive Director (CEO & CFO) would receive a bonus and the individuals themselves had confirmed that they would not have taken a bonus had it been offered..

Matt Roach, Managing Director, EDAL reported that the Airport was positive about the future with the deal proposed with the Consortium. Councillor Philip Skinner, Deputy Leader, EDDC, commented that the District Council recognised the importance of Exeter Airport and Flybe to the local economy.

Hannah Foster was thanked for her interesting and informative report.

RESOLVED

1. that the report be noted;
2. that the Consultative Committee wished to express their support for all Flybe had done to support the business during difficult times and the deal proposed with the Consortium of Cirrus Capital, Virgin and Stobart Group.

51 Noise report for the Airport

Janet Wallace, Principal Environmental Health Officer, EDDC, reported that there had a recent noise complaint early in the morning on Sunday 3rd and Tuesday 5th February by a resident of South Whimble Farmhouse. Janet agreed to forward details of the complaint to Matt Roach, Managing Director, EDAL.

52 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 November 2018 were 9% higher than last year, and 7% up on budget. December was 3% up on 2018 and 2% up on budget. Overall passenger numbers in January were 6% up on 2018 and 2% up on budget. There had been good growth in passenger numbers over 2018 and end of year figures were expected to show 930-935,000 passengers over the course of the year.

Members noted that terminal improvements were taking place to the domestic departure gate, international departures and overflow domestic arrivals. There were also improvements proposed to the Customer Service Programme and positive improvements proposed for Long Lane. The summer schedule would include flights from Flybe, TUI and Ryanair.

Councillor Phil Twiss representing Devon County Council, asked whether the Airport would ask the Consortium to look into landing slots at Heathrow? There was also a question regarding extra marketing of the Airport in view of the closure of the Great Western mainline for 3 weeks from Monday 18 February.

Members discussed the Mayflower 400 celebrations and Matt Roach, Managing Director, EDAL agreed to forward details to Flybe. It was noted that a problem of the Airport benefiting from this would be getting from Exeter to Plymouth.

RESOLVED

1. that the report be noted;
2. that Andy Wood, EEDGP, be requested to investigate improving the coach connection from Exeter Airport to Plymouth, in particular for the Mayflower 400 event year.

53 Complaints Handling

There had been one complaint received, investigated and replied to since the last meeting. This had related to an out of hours engine test at 1.30am on 11 December due to Flybe operational requirements.

54 Exeter Airport Business Park Car Parking Restrictions

Members noted that Clyst Honiton Parish Council had asked that the issue of Airport parkers leaving vehicles for mid and long-term periods on the streets of the Exeter Airport Business Park and causing obstruction to businesses be raised at the Airport Consultative Committee. It was noted that restrictions of 23 hour in any 24-hour period parking limits had been proposed to prevent this problem in the business park. But it was acknowledged that this may have the implication of pushing traffic into surrounding residential areas including Clyst Honiton.

It was noted that there was also consultation on a temporary traffic order to impose greater parking restrictions in Long Lane. There were also overall parking issues impacting surrounding areas and Clyst Honiton Parish Council had asked what the Airport might do to encourage use of Airport parking to reduce the impact on local surrounding areas caused by those put off by parking charges.

The Parish Council was keen to progress some form of parking restriction on the Industrial Estate which enabled space within the estate to be used by its tenants and their visitors without penalty or charge, but that meant it cannot be used by airport passengers. A 'free parking for 23rs in any 24hr period' restriction had been mooted as one option, although it was appreciated this would not impact on daily commuter fliers.

Members noted that the issue of a business parking permit scheme had been registered as an issue with DCC.

RESOLVED: that the Consultative Committee recommends that the possibility of DCC Highways implementing a business parking scheme for

businesses at the business park to pay for parking in the Exeter Airport Business Park be suggested and that this would be supported by County Councillors Bloxham and Twiss at the next available East Devon HATOC meeting.

55 Any other business

Controlled airspace

It was noted that the Airport would be meeting with the CAA in due course to discuss their application for controlled airspace.

56 Date of the next meeting

RESOLVED that the ordinary meetings of the Consultative Committee be held on Wednesday, 8 May, 10 July, 18 September and 4 December 2019, commencing at 3.15 pm.

Chairman Date