



ROBIN HOOD AIRPORT DONCASTER SHEFFIELD

NOISE MONITORING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-COMMITTEE

17 SEPTEMBER 2015

PRESENT: A Tolhurst OBE (in the Chair)
Town Councillor S Ball (Maltby Town Council), Councillor R Blake (Doncaster MBC), A Bosmans (FODSA), Parish Councillor R Brown (Blyth Parish Council), Parish Councillor C Clayborn (Finningley Parish Council), M Cotterill (Peel Airports Management), Councillor J Cox (Doncaster MBC), Town Councillor A Cropley (Bawtry Town Council), Parish Councillor J Holmes (Misson Parish Council), A Hudson (Air Traffic Control, Robin Hood Airport), G Levett (Doncaster MBC), Parish Councillor M Marrison (Tickhill Town Council), Parish Councillor N McCarron (Blaxton Parish Council), K Naylor (Robin Hood Airport), S Racjan (Doncaster MBC), A Shirt (Committee Secretary), Parish Councillor I Swainston (Auckley Parish Council), Parish Councillor A Wilcox (Misson Parish Council) and Parish Councillor J Worthington (Cantley with Branton Parish Council)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T Corden (Doncaster MBC), Parish Councillor S Crawford (Austerfield Parish Council), Councillor L Curran (Doncaster MBC), J Davies (Doncaster MBC), S Gill (Robin Hood Airport), Councillor J Hart (Doncaster MBC) and T McDonald (Doncaster MBC)

1 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed Members to the September meeting of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee. An extended welcome went to Town Councillor Simon Ball (Maltby Town Council), Parish Councillor John Holmes (Misson Parish Council) and Parish Councillor Andrea Wilcox (Mission Parish Council).

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 MINUTES OF THE NOISE MONITORING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 JUNE 2015

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee held on 11 June 2015 be agreed as a correct record.

3 MATTERS ARISING

i) easyJet Training Flights

A Hudson informed the Committee that a discussion had now taken place with easyJet's Chief Flying Instructor regarding training route circuits. It had been

agreed that, wherever possible, future training circuits undertaken would be carried out avoiding built up areas, as much as possible. easyJet would be working with Air Traffic Control to also try and vary the training circuits to avoid flying over the same areas.

Town Councillor Cropley commented that he welcomed this news, adding that it was pleasing to see that the Airport was willing to work with local communities to try and accommodate their requests.

A Tolhurst asked Members to convey this information at their forthcoming Parish and Town Council meetings.

On a separate issue, A Tolhurst added that he would try and arrange for a presentation on Aircraft Performance to be made at a future meeting. **ACTION: A Tolhurst**

ii) Government's Regional Air Connectivity Fund

The Committee was informed that the Government had recently announced that the airport had reached the shortlist of new international and domestic air routes for regional airports handling fewer than 5 million passengers per years.

Members were reminded that the airport had submitted a bid to the Government's Regional Air Connectivity Fund for a daily weekday Bmi regional route between Robin Hood Airport and Frankfurt.

The funding would provide support for approved routes for three years; however, to be successful, the operators would need to prove that the routes would be commercially viable after that time.

iii) Car Parking

It was agreed that an update on car parking would be covered in the Airport Developments update.

4 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

RESOLVED – That the Committee notes the following changes of membership on the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Committee:

- Maltby Town Council has appointed Town Councillor Simon Ball (in place of Town Councillor Peter Scholey).
- Austerfield Parish Council has appointed Parish Councillor Sandra Crawford (in place of Parish Councillor Lesley Gilfedder).

5 CONTINUOUS DESCENT OPERATIONS (CDO) - NATS BLOG

The Committee noted the National Air Traffic Services (NATS) Blog regarding Continuous Descent Operations (CDOs) campaign.

A Hudson informed the Committee that Continuous Descents Operations were a voluntary activity and how the operations were applied differed upon local airspace. Robin Hood Airport's CDOs were in place for aircraft arriving from the West only. Aircraft arriving from the East were not allowed to carry out a CDO due to being in controlled airspace.

Members received a practical demonstration from A Hudson which made them aware that during a conventional aircraft approach, an aircraft would be given clearance by Air Traffic Control from an altitude of 6000 or 7000 feet to descend to an altitude of around 3000 feet. The aircraft would then fly level for several miles before intersecting the final 3 degree glidepath to the runway. During this period of level flight, the pilot would need to apply additional engine power to maintain a constant speed.

In contrast to a conventional approach, when a continuous descent approach procedure is flown, the aircraft stays higher for longer, descending continuously requiring significantly less engine thrust, thus, the noise impact on the ground is reduced in certain areas under the approach path. There are also significant fuel savings and reduced emissions by aircraft flying a continuous descent approach.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

6 AIRPORT DEVELOPMENTS

M Cotterill provided the Committee with an update regarding the commercial, marketing and operational issues at RHADS. In summary it was reported that:-

- In the current financial year (April 2015 to March 2016), passenger numbers were expected to surpass 890,000, which would be 9% up on last year's total number of passengers (roughly 760,000). The airport was therefore anticipating growth of 19% during the 2015/16 financial year.
- The carrier Wizz Air continued to grow at the airport with its eastern European flights.
- Throughout summer 2015, the Thomson Zante route, had been the airport's best performing route.
- The Aer Lingus Regional service to Dublin continued to perform very well and a decision had been taken to operate the service all-year-round, with onward connections available.
- Thomson had announced that they would be increasing capacity at Robin Hood through the introduction of two new routes during summer 2016 to Larnaca (Cyprus) and Heraklion (Crete).
- One of the Aviation Development Team's main target for next year was to develop a hub feeder route.
- Work on the FARRRS link road was on-track to be completed by Spring 2016; the Airport was already obtaining large amounts of interest from airlines.
- 1,000 tonnes of cargo had passed through the airport to date.

- A new 'Subway' fast food restaurant would be opening shortly in the Terminal Building.
- Analysis had been carried out in relation to the airport's onsite car parking infrastructure to take on board the comments raised at the last meeting. Members were informed that, unfortunately, it was not financially viable to extend the current 15 minutes free car parking offer to a longer period of time.

Members expressed their disappointment, adding that passengers with reduced mobility needed extra time to enter and leave a vehicle.

Additionally, Parish Councillor Swainston added that since the July meeting Auckley Parish Council had received further complaints from residents regarding individuals either parking their vehicles on estate roads and at the new housing development in Auckley and waiting until they received a call to collect passengers from the airport.

Furthermore, Members also added that the ANPR vehicle patrolling the access roads into the airport and fining people for stopping in the event of an emergency or asking for directions was unfair and was likely to harm the reputation of the airport for this overzealous approach.

Members were made aware that the access roads into the airport were controlled by another company in the Peel Group, (Peel Land and Property) and that the Airport was therefore, not in direct control of the roads.

A Tolhurst commented that the Airport operator was aware of the concerns of users of the airport and stressed that the matter needed to be resolved before the reputation of Peel was damaged further.

A Bosmans commented that a fundamental re-think in relation to the airport's car parking was now required, adding that the signage could be improved somewhat. A Tolhurst suggested that A Bosmans speaks with Ian Smith regarding his concerns.

- A Bosmans informed the Committee that he understood that a planning application had been made to Doncaster MBC regarding the development of a Solar Farm on High Common Lane at the junction of Old Bawtry Road, asking if the Airport had received notice of the application, and questioned if this would be a danger to aircraft due to the glare from the solar panels.

M Cotterill informed the Committee that the airport had received notification of the planning application, and, on this occasion the airport would be objecting to its construction due to safety concerns from the airport and the effect on wildlife in the area.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

7 AIR TRANSPORT MOVEMENTS AND QUIET OPERATIONS POLICY REPORT

The Committee received a presentation from K Naylor, Environment and Community Officer regarding the Air Transport Movements and Quiet Operations Policy for the period June to August 2015.

a) Air Transport Movements

The presentation reported on the following:-

- i) The number and type of aircraft movements from June to August 2015.
- ii) The number of arrivals and departures on each runway from June to August 2015.
- iii) The number of arrivals and departures on each runway from April 2005 to August 2015.

b) Quiet Operations Policy Report

The presentation reported on the following:-

- i) The number of complaints received by Robin Hood Airport from 1 June 2015 to 31 August 2015, amounted to 114 complaints.
 - On 11th June 2015 the Airport received 14 complaints regarding training from runway 02 by easyJet and Monarch.
 - On 16th July 2015 the Airport received 14 complaints regarding training flights from runway 02 by Monarch and the RAF.
- ii) Robin Hood's total number of complaints and type of complaints for the period 1 June 2015 to 31 August 2015.

c) Number of Complaints and Individuals for June 2015 to August 2015

- i) During June 2015, the Airport received 57 complaints from 37 individuals.
- ii) During July 2015, the Airport received 44 complaints from 20 individuals.
- iii) During August 2015, the Airport received 17 complaints from 5 individuals.

d) Number of Complaints and Individuals from each area from 1 June 2015 to 31 August 2015

- i) During the period the highest number of complaints received by the airport from each area during the period were:

40 complaints from 27 individuals residing in the Bawtry area;
26 complaints from 1 individual residing in the Moorends area;
9 complaints from 8 individuals residing in Blaxton;
6 complaints from 1 individual residing in Mattersey Thorpe; and

11 complaints from 3 individuals in Wroot.

- ii) The percentage of total complaints from each area for the period.
- iii) The number of complaints and comparison figures for June to August 2014 and 2015.
- iv) Robin Hood Airport's annual number of complaints and total movements from 2005 to 2015.
- v) The annual number of complaints received by the Airport continued to decline year-on-year from 2009 onwards. During 2015 there had been 206 complaints received by the Airport to 31 August 2015.
- vi) The number of night time departures from Runway 20 for June 2015 to August 2015.
- vii) The number of non-NPR aircraft departures June 2015 to August 2015.
- viii) The number of Quota Count Points (QCP) used and QCP Limits from April 2005 to August 2015.
- ix) The number of Quota Count 4 Movements from November 2010 to August 2015.
- x) The number of Engine Tests for June 2015 to August 2015.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

K Naylor was pleased to inform the Committee that the airport had successfully been accredited with the International Organisation Standardisation (ISO 50001) for Energy Management.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

9 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

K Naylor informed the Committee that the Community Investment Fund would be re-launched in the New Year. Further information regarding the application process would be made available on the airport's website.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i) Hedge Rows

Parish Councillor McCarron reminded the airport that the hedge rows in the vicinity of the airport now required trimming again, following the departure of nesting birds. **ACTION: K Naylor to inform Parish Councillor N McCarron of the commencement date.**

ii) Rapid Charging Point(s) for Electric Vehicles

Town Councillor Ball asked if the airport had any plans to introduce Rapid Charging Point(s) for passengers with electric vehicles.

K Naylor informed the Committee that the airport had considered installing Charging Point(s) previously; however, due to restrictions onsite it had not been possible. It was noted that Liverpool John Lennon Airport had installed a Rapid Charging Point for electric vehicles and that feedback from Liverpool Airport would be obtained for the Committee's information. **ACTION: K Naylor.**

iii) Last Vulcan Flight

Members noted that the Vulcan would fly for the final time this Autumn before going on display at the Vulcan Aviation Academy and Heritage Centre to be sited at Robin Hood Airport.

Parish Councillor McCarron informed Members that she had written to Dr Robert Pleming, Chief Executive, Vulcan to the Sky Trust regarding the possibility of the Vulcan carrying out one last short display as a "thank you" to residents for all their support over the years; a reply was awaited.

iv) Ownership of Old Bawtry Road

Members noted that discussions continued regarding the ownership of Old Bawtry Road.

S Racjan informed Members that following the removal of the litter bins on Old Bawtry Road there had been no further incidents of individuals depositing domestic waste.

v) Thank you to FODSA Ambassadors

Parish Councillor Worthington informed the Committee that she had been asked to pass on a "thank you" to the FODSA Ambassadors, who had been particularly helpful with assisting a small group of passengers who recently travelled from the airport to Jersey.

vi) Gentlemen's Toilets – Terminal Building

Parish Councillor Worthington raised, on behalf of a small group of passengers who had recently departed from the airport, that the gentleman's toilets in the terminal building had been particularly smelly.

It was agreed that Parish Councillor Worthington forwards onto K Naylor the exact time and date for an investigation to take place. **ACTION: J Worthington / K Naylor.**

vii) Life on FARRRS: A Transformational Journey Publication

A Tolhurst encouraged Members to read the publication 'Life on FARRRS: A Transformational Journey'. (Hard copies were circulated at the meeting).
http://farrs.com/d/Life-on-FARRRS_LR.pdf

11 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee be held on Thursday 3 December 2015 at 10:00 am in Heyford House, Robin Hood Airport, Doncaster.

CHAIR