



**ROBIN HOOD AIRPORT DONCASTER SHEFFIELD**

**NOISE MONITORING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-COMMITTEE**

**23 JUNE 2016**

PRESENT: A Tolhurst OBE (in the Chair)

Members:- Parish Councillor R Brown (Blyth Parish Council), R Cooke (Robin Hood Airport), Councillor T Corden (Doncaster MBC), Councillor J Cox (Doncaster MBC), Parish Councillor S Crawford (Austerfield Parish Council), Town Councillor A Cropley (Bawtry Town Council), A Hudson (Air Traffic Control, Robin Hood Airport), G Levett (Doncaster MBC), K Naylor (Robin Hood Airport), G Payne (Substitute for Auckley Parish Council), S Racjan (Doncaster MBC), Parish Councillor C Sheriff (Finningley Parish Council), A Shirt (Committee Secretary), Town Councillor Gordon Whitehead (Tickhill Town Council), Parish Councillor A Wilcox (Misson Parish Council), and Parish Councillor J Worthington (Cantley with Branton Parish Council)

Observers:- P Edwards (Misson Parish Council) and Y D Woodcock (Ex-Officio, ACC)

Apologies for absence were received from Town Councillor S Ball (Maltby Town Council), Councillor R Blake (Doncaster MBC), A Bosmans (FODSA), Councillor L Curran (Doncaster MBC), J Davies (Doncaster MBC), Parish Councillor N McCarron (Blaxton Parish Council), Councillor A Smith (Doncaster MBC) and Parish Councillor I Swainston (Auckley Parish Council)

**1 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

A Tolhurst welcomed everyone to the June meeting of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee.

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

**2 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

**3 PRESENTATION ON DRONES AND LASERS**

The Committee received a presentation from Andy Hudson, Air Traffic Control Manager, regarding the use of Drones and Lasers attacks.

A Hudson informed Members that small unmanned aircraft were now widely available to purchase in shops and online, both for commercial and recreational use.

More popularly known as 'drones', they can cause injury or damage if they are not used responsibly.

The official definition of a drone is "a small unmanned aircraft "(SUA) defined in the ANO (Article 255) as any unmanned aircraft, other than a balloon or kite, having a mass of not more than 20kg without its fuel, but including any articles or equipment installed in or attached to the aircraft at the commencement of its flight.

For electrically powered models the batteries must be included as part of the 20kg limit. The batteries are in effect regarded as the fuel tank and electronics are regarded as the fuel.

Anyone using a small drone needs to be aware of the regulations contained in the Air Navigation Order, specifically Article 166, which states:

- (1) A person must not cause or permit any article or animal (whether or not attached to a parachute) to be dropped from a small unmanned aircraft so as to endanger persons or property.
- (2) The person in charge of a small unmanned aircraft may only fly the aircraft if reasonably satisfied that the flight can safely be made.
- (3) The person in charge of a small unmanned aircraft must maintain direct, unaided visual contact with the aircraft sufficient to monitor its flight path in relation to other aircraft, persons, vehicles, vessels and structures for the purpose of avoiding collisions.
- (4) The person in charge of a small unmanned aircraft which has a mass of **more than 7kg**, excluding its fuel, but including any articles or equipment installed in or attached to the aircraft at the commencement of its flight, must not fly such an aircraft:
  - (a) In class A, C, D or E airspace unless the permission of the appropriate air traffic control unit has been obtained;
  - (b) Within an aerodrome traffic zone during the notified hours of watch of the air traffic control unit (if any) at the aerodrome, unless the permission of any such air traffic control unit has been obtained; or
  - (c) At a height of more than 400 feet above the surface, unless it is flying in airspace described in sub-paragraph (a) or (b) and in accordance with the requirements for that airspace.
- (5) The person in charge of a small unmanned aircraft must not fly such an aircraft for the purposes of aerial work, except in accordance with a permission granted by the CAA.

Members noted that flights that require permission are subject to the airport's hazard analysis and promulgation procedures before permission is granted.

Members were of the opinion that there needed to be stronger regulation and enforcement action regarding the inappropriate use of drones to ensure that the airspace around airports remained safe.

In relation to Laser attacks, it was reported that there had been four attacks on aircrafts within the airspace of Robin Hood Airport during 2015. From the beginning of 2016 to date, there had been one reported laser attack. All laser attacks were reported to the Police and to the Airport's onsite Policing team for investigation and prosecution.

Members were asked to report any activity to the Airport which they may witness currently taking place in villages close-by to the Airport, in relation to Balloons, Fireworks, Lasers or Drones on the following telephone number **01302 625642**. The Airport could then take action to sanitise the airspace above the particular area.

RESOLVED – That the Committee thanked Andy for an interesting and informative presentation.

4 MINUTES OF THE NOISE MONITORING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON 17 MARCH 2016

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee held on 17 March 2016 be agreed as a correct record.

5 MATTERS ARISING

i) Noise Preferential Route

K Naylor informed Members that following the March meeting, analysis had taken place to capture all flights which had not followed the Noise Preferential Route, due to it not been available in the Aircraft's Flight Management System. Following analysis, there had only been a small number of occasions where aircraft's had not followed the Noise Preferential Route.

It was noted that there had been one cargo operator who had continuously not followed the Noise Preferential Route; work was now taking place with the airline to address this issue.

ii) Noise Complaints from Armthorpe Residents

Councillor Corden wished to make the Airport aware that there had been an increase in complaints reported to Armthorpe Parish Council in relation to aircraft noise.

A Tolhurst explained that all complaints in relation to aircraft noise, must be reported to the Airport to allow them to investigate the issue.

Members were reminded that noise complaints could be reported to the airport by calling the 24 hour answering service on 01302 623499, or by email [environment@robinhoodairport.com](mailto:environment@robinhoodairport.com) or in writing to the Environment and Community Manager, Robin Hood Airport, Heyford House, First Avenue, Doncaster, DN9 3RH, by leaving their name and address followed by the date of the disturbance, time and any other information to assist the investigation.

6 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

RESOLVED – That the Committee notes the changes of membership on the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee as outlined below:

- Doncaster MBC has appointed Councillor Alan Smith (in place of Councillor James Hart).
- Doncaster MBC has re-appointed Councillors Jane Cox, Tony Corden, Linda Curran and Rachael Blake.
- Blaxton Parish Council has re-appointed Parish Councillor Norma McCarron.

7 AIRPORT ACTIVITIES UPDATE

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

- Passenger numbers and interest in the Paris and Brussels Flybe routes were suffering a little due to general softening of the market. This had also been seen by other operators at other major Airports.
- The possible reason for the low demand on the Paris route was thought to be in respect of the recent terrorist attacks, however, there had been interest in the route due to the European Football Championships.
- A large amount of marketing activity was currently taking place, particularly digital marketing.
- A 30% off sale had recently taken place to which had a positive impact on forward sales.
- Further marketing initiatives were planned to take place over the forthcoming months.
- The Airport would be making some changes to its winter schedule; flights to Dusseldorf and Chambéry would commence with flights to Newquay being suspended for the winter season.
- Freight activity at the Airport was currently doing very well at the moment. There had been a large number of ad-hoc movements to date.
- The Airport were hopeful that they may be able to secure a scheduled freight operation from Robin Hood later in the year.
- The new Executive Lounge in the Terminal Building was proving to be very popular during the day and was currently ahead of all expectations.
- There had been record levels of demand for onsite car parking, so much so that the Airport was having to construct a temporary car parking capacity to meet demand. This was similar to the demand being seen for car parking at East Midlands and Manchester Airports.

- The 'Meet and Greet' service had been exceptionally well received by the public and excellent reviews had been obtained.

A Tolhurst commented that it would be useful for Members to receive a tour of the Terminal Building later in the year, to see the infrastructure changes which have taken place over recent months.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

## 8 AIR TRANSPORT MOVEMENTS AND QUIET OPERATIONS POLICY REPORT

The Committee received a presentation from K Naylor regarding the Air Transport Movements and Quiet Operations Policy for the period March 2016 to May 2016.

### a) Air Transport Movements

The presentation reported on the following:-

- i) The number and type of aircraft movements from March to May 2016.
- ii) The number of arrivals and departures on each runway from March to May 2016.
- iii) The number of arrivals and departures on each runway from April 2005 to May 2016.

### b) Quiet Operations Policy Report

The presentation reported on the following:-

- i) The number of complaints received by Robin Hood Airport from 1 March 2016 to 31 May 2016, amounted to 140 complaints.
- ii) Robin Hood Airport's total number of complaints and type of complaints for the period 1 March 2016 to 31 May 2016.

### c) Number of Complaints and Individuals for March to May 2016

- i) During March 2016, the Airport received 27 complaints from 8 individuals.
- ii) During April 2016, the Airport received 47 complaints from 11 individuals.
- iii) During May 2016, the Airport received 66 complaints from 16 individuals.

### d) Number of Complaints and Individuals from each area from 1 March 2016 to 31 May 2016

- i) The number of complaints and individuals from each area for March 2016 to May 2016.
- ii) The percentage of total complaints from each area for the period.
- iii) The number of complaints and comparison figures for March to May 2015 and 2016.

- iv) Robin Hood Airport's annual number of complaints and total movements from 2005 to 2016.
- v) The number of complaints received by the Airport continued to decline year-on-year from 2009 onwards. From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016 the Airport had received a total of 178 complaints.
- vi) The number of night time departures from Runway 20 for March to May 2016.
- vii) The number of non-NPR aircraft departures from March to May 2016.
- viii) The number of Quota Count Points (QCP) used and QCP Limits from April 2005 to May 2016.
- ix) The number of Quota Count 4 Movements from November 2010 to May 2016.

During April 2016 there had been one QC4 movement at the Airport.

- x) The number of Engine Tests for March to May 2016.

RESOLVED – That the presentation be noted.

## **9 ANNUAL NOISE REPORT APRIL 2015 - MARCH 2016**

K Naylor presented the Annual Noise Report for the period 1st April 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

It was agreed that a copy of the report be submitted to Doncaster MBC in accordance with the provisions set out in the Section 106 agreement.

RESOLVED –

- i) That the Committee notes and approves the contents of the 2015/16 Annual Noise Report.
- ii) That a copy of the Annual Noise Report 2015/16 be submitted to Doncaster MBC in accordance with the provisions set out in the Section 106 agreement.

## **10 5 YEARLY REVIEW OF QUOTA COUNT POINTS**

A Tolhurst reminded the Committee that the Quota Count Point (QCP) system in use at Robin Hood Airport was for aircraft operating in the night time period (23:00 to 07:00 hours). The totals for each month are recorded and reported to the Committee every quarter.

As agreed in the Section 106 Agreement with Doncaster MBC, the Airport were permitted 100, QC4 movements each year.

The Committee gave its consideration to reviewing the Quota Count Points system and agreed that the Airport should retain its current policy.

RESOLVED – That the Committee agreed that the Airport should retain its current Quota Count Points system as outlined in the Section 106 agreement.

## 11 NOISE POLICY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BOARDS

A Tolhurst informed the Committee that correspondence had been circulated by the UKACCs Secretariat, informing ACCs that Manchester Airport Consultative Committee had sent a letter to the Department for Transport (DfT) setting out their Committee's views on the Airports Commission's recommendations contained in its Final Report regarding the Independent Aviation Noise Authority, Community Engagement Boards and proposed noise levy.

A copy of the letter was included in the agenda pack for Members' information.

A Tolhurst reported that the DfT had replied to Manchester Airport Consultative Committee stating that Government had recently begun a process to review noise and airspace policies. Additionally, the DfT were aware of the concerns that had been raised and were considering these when developing its policies for consultation.

The reply also stated that the DfT "did not want to disrupt, nor replace any current local arrangements that work, and understand the need for local answers for local situations".

In respect of the recommendation for an independent noise body, the DfT felt that in certain circumstances, it would have a place, without creating a one size fits all answer.

The DfT were considering consulting on a further functions, however, they were suggesting that its main purposes would be in helping with airspace changes and developing best practice for noise mitigations within the aviation industry.

It was pointed out that the noise levy was recommended as a charge at all major airports, and that the DfT were looking at the evidence from many airports other than Heathrow and Gatwick to ensure that it was the right thing to do according to that evidence. The DfT would consult on how its thinking had evolved on this topic, but it would be based on that evidence.

The letter concluded by stating that the "community engagement board was recommended by the Airports Commission for an expanded Heathrow only, the AC did not suggest that it should be applied elsewhere".

RESOLVED – That the Committee noted the contents of a letter from Manchester Airport Consultative Committee and the reply from the DfT.

## 12 CAA CONSULTATION ON IMPROVEMENTS TO UK AIRSPACE CHANGE PROCESS

A Tolhurst reminded the Committee that the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) had issued a consultation paper inviting views on proposed changes the CAA was considering making to its airspace change decision-making process. The objective being to optimise its process to ensure that all stakeholders are adequately consulted as part of a transparent, proportionate process.

R Cooke informed Members that the Airport had submitted a response to the consultation which closed on 15 June 2016.

It was noted that the DfT would be consulting on a new noise policy for aviation later in the year.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

**13**    ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

K Naylor reported that the Airport continued to use the company 'ReFood' who collected waste food from the Airport, which otherwise would have gone to landfill or to an incinerator.

It was reported that the Airport was aiming to boost its recycling and further segregation of waste this year, with the overall aim of reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill or to an incinerator.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

**14**    COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

K Naylor informed Members that following the March meeting, all successful projects had now received funds from the Airport's Community Investment Fund.

It was noted that a further round of funding had been made available for further projects in the 2016/17 financial year.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

**15**    ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i)    Portable Noise Monitor

Councillor Cox asked if there had been any progress in fixing the portable noise monitor.

K Naylor reported that a new SIM card had been ordered for the Portable Noise Monitor and that hopefully, the replacement card would fix the current problem. Arrangements would then be made to monitor to be position the noise monitor in Blaxton to obtain recordings as requested by Blaxton Parish Council.

ii)   Access Road – Hurst Lane

S Racjan reported that a Council vehicle had recently stopped on Hurst Lane to clear-up broken glass. Subsequently, in the following days, the Council had received a car parking fine for stopping on Hurst Lane. It was noted that Council were challenging the parking fine.

K Naylor suggested that S Racjan contacts Margaret Godley at Peel Investments North regarding registering Council vehicles to allow them to be permitted to stop on the Airport's access road to clear up reports of rubbish / fly tipping etc.

iii) Ownership of Old Bawtry Road

Parish Councillor Sheriff asked if there had been any progress made in clarifying the ownership of Old Bawtry Road.

K Naylor reported that it was anticipated that this issue would be concluded later in the year and agreed to keep the Committee updated on progress.

iv) Airport's Chosen Charity for 2016

K Naylor reminded Members that the Airport and TUI UK Ltd had chosen to support the Children's Hospital Charity 'Make it Better Appeal' as their local charity for 2016.

Staff would be holding a 'Bake it Better' fundraising day in the Terminal Building on Friday 24 June 2016.

v) Doncaster Armed Forces Day Celebration – Saturday 2 July 2016

Y Woodcock informed Members that the Doncaster Armed Forces Day Celebration event would take place on Saturday 2 July 2016 from 9:45 am to 2:00 pm at Waterdale, Doncaster.

vi) Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust

Y Woodcock encouraged Members to vote for the Doncaster Cancer Detection Trust in the Sainsbury's Local Charity of the year programme.

Members could cast their vote by visiting [www.sainsburyslocalcharity.co.uk](http://www.sainsburyslocalcharity.co.uk) by Sunday 26 June 2016.

**16** DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee be held on Thursday 15 September 2016 at 10:00 am in Heyford House, Robin Hood Airport, Doncaster.

CHAIR