

Consultative Committee

DONCASTER SHEFFIELD AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

NOISE MONITORING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-COMMITTEE

25 MARCH 2021 – VIRTUAL MEETING

PRESENT: A Tolhurst OBE (Chair)

C Barnes (Doncaster Sheffield Airport / Liverpool John Lennon Airport), A Bosmans (FODSA), Town Councillor N Cannings (Tickhill Town Council), Parish Councillor J Clarke (Finningley Parish Council), Councillor S Cox (Doncaster MBC), Town Councillor A Cropley (Bawtry Town Council), A Dutton (Doncaster Sheffield Airport / Liverpool John Lennon Airport), Parish Councillor P Edwards (North East Bassetlaw Forum / Misson Parish Council), Councillor M Greenhalgh (Doncaster MBC), G Levett (Doncaster MBC), Parish Councillor N McCarron (Blaxton Parish Council), K Moran (Doncaster Sheffield Airport), A Shirt (Committee Secretary), Parish Councillor I Swainston (Auckley Parish Council), Councillor F Tyas (Doncaster MBC) and Parish Councillor J Worthington (Cantley with Branton Parish Council)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor L Curran (Doncaster MBC) and K Stow (Doncaster Sheffield Airport)

1 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

An extended welcome went to Colin Barnes, Environmental Advisor at Liverpool John Lennon Airport, who was currently covering noise monitoring matters on an interim basis for DSA.

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Tolhurst opened the meeting and said that, one year on and the Committee continues to meet virtually.

It had been a tough year for individuals, countries, economies, businesses, and for everyone globally. So much had happened over the past 12 months and yet little had changed. We are still in lockdown and there is talk of another wave and of new mutant strains. But there was hope as vaccination programmes take effect and road maps out of the pandemic are produced.

Aviation was beginning to see a way forward as demand for travel increases; but there was still some difficult times ahead with leisure travellers being threatened with heavy fines if they are unable to justify their journeys.

While this is understandable, given the government's fears of new mutations being brought into the country from abroad, it has a dampening effect on enthusiasm. At least it should bolster staycation bookings.

But businesses must continue to plan and at DSA there was a recent presentation on the Central Plaza development as part of the Master-Plan which was attended by some local residents. Perhaps, later in the agenda, K Moran will bring Members up to date on progress.

The latest UKACCs News Bulletin, included details of a newly published HM Treasury Consultation on Air Passenger Duty (APD).

Members were reminded that government had committed to consult on aviation tax reform at the 2020 Budget and, in particular, the case for amending the APD treatment of domestic flights and for increasing the number of international distance bands.

The consultation delivers on that commitment and sets out the government's current approach to taxing the aviation sector, via APD. The consultation wished to obtain views on the government's initial policy position, that, in order to support Union and domestic connectivity the effective rate of APD on domestic flights should be reduced and the potential options through which this could be achieved. The consultation also wished to obtain views on a potential increase to the number of distance bands, in order to align the tax more closely with environmental objectives.

Members were asked to review the document and provide any comments to the Committee Secretary. (The consultation document is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-aviation-tax-reform>)

3 MINUTES OF THE NOISE MONITORING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON 3RD DECEMBER 2020 AND ACTIONS UPDATE

RESOLVED –That the minutes of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee held on 3rd December 2020 be agreed as a correct record.

4 MATTERS ARISING

- i) Map to show the indicative path undertaken by commercial aircrafts using visual flight rules during training circuits at DSA

C Barnes informed Members that he had produced a draft map to show the indicative path of commercial aircrafts using visual flight rules during training circuits from runways 20 and 02. The circuits undertaken were very much dependent upon the weather and wind directions.

It was agreed that the document be circulated with the minutes. **ACTION: C Barnes via A Shirt** (Attached at Appendix A).

ii) Presentation from P Kennan to the ACC on 28th January 2021

Following a presentation from P Kennan to the ACC on 28th January 2021, A Tolhurst asked Members if they had any feedback.

A Bosmans said that the MCA were doing their best to talk with government; he was of the opinion, more could be done to keep lobbying government about DSA and the Doncaster area.

A Tolhurst said that he found the presentation very helpful. As a result of the presentation, the ACC had invited representatives from both the LEP Board and Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) to become Members of the ACC.

Members noted that Peter Kennan (LEP Board Private Sector Member Transport Lead) and Andrew Gates (MCA Executive Team) had accepted the invitation and would be joining future ACC meetings.

5 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

RESOLVED – That the Committee noted that Austerfield Parish Council had appointed Parish Councillor Chris Beckett to the Committee (in place of Parish Councillor Sandra Crawford).

6 AIRPORT ACTIVITIES UPDATE REPORT

K Moran provided a verbal update on Airport Activities. In summary, it was noted that:

- Currently, DSA's operations and staffing levels were reduced.
- DSA was awaiting government's announcement on 12th April in relation to the roadmap for the recovery for aviation.
- DSA had seen a slight increase in GA operations.
- DSA's Cargo operation was slightly reduced.
- There was currently an additional weekly rotation of a Wizzair passenger service.
- Wizzair was expected to recommence its operations not before, 17th May 2021.
- TUI was expected to recommence its operations from mid-May / beginning of June 2021.
- Training flights were expected to increase at DSA in the coming weeks due to pilots trying to increase their flying hours.
- The Terminal development project agreed in 2019/20 would now be re-engaged. It was anticipated that contractors would be onsite from either 1st April or 1st May 2021.
- As part of the project, the Central Search area within the Terminal Building would be reconfigured and two new gate bridges installed to provide flexibility with boarding.

A Tolhurst said that a presentation on the Central Plaza (GatewayEast) development had been provided to local residents on 10th March 2021. He asked if Members could be updated on the discussions. **ACTION: K Moran to obtain an update from K Stow.**

Following discussion, it was noted that Councillor Cox and Parish Councillors McCarron and Worthington had attended the presentation. The event had been arranged to allow local residents to ask questions about the Central Plaza planning application.

Councillor Cox added that there had been a discussion at the event about flooding in Auckley, which had been noted by Peel Land and Property and Doncaster MBC that there was an issue in the local area. Both parties were now working hard to resolve the matter.

It was noted that the Central Plaza development should not create any further flooding in the local area. Effort was being made by Peel Land and Property to minimise and reduce flooding in the local area.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

7 ICCAN REVIEW OF AIRPORT NOISE INSULATION SCHEMES

The Committee noted the contents of the Independent Commission on Civil Aviation's (ICCAN) Review of Airport Noise Insulation Schemes report, which set out the current approaches used in the UK and how they mitigate noise.

As part of this work, ICCAN commissioned the Building Research Establishment (BRE) to conduct a technical review.

The key findings from the technical review and initial recommendations were summarised within the report. ICCAN would now continue to work on more detailed recommendations and standards, consulting with industry and experts in the field.

Members discussed the report and noted that, DSA had implemented a Sound Insulation Grant Scheme (SIGS) when the airport had first opened in 2005.

The SIGS covered just over 50 properties to start with, and provided residents with financial assistance towards the installation of soundproof glazing in the areas of their property most affected by aircraft noise.

The SIGS was reviewed and extended in 2007 to include a total of 247 local properties within the Scheme.

The Committee said that it would be useful to know how many of the 247 local properties within the Scheme had been insulated.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the ICCAN's Review of Airport Noise Insulation Schemes report be noted.

8 ELECTION OF 3 PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (ACC)

In accordance with paragraph 8 of the Airport Consultative Committee's Constitution, an election was required to be undertaken to fill three places on the Airport

Consultative Committee from Parish and Town Council representatives of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee for the 2021 calendar year.

RESOLVED – That Councillors Cropley, McCarron and Worthington be elected to fill the three places on Airport Consultative Committee for the 2021 calendar year.

9 **AIR TRANSPORT MOVEMENTS AND QUIET OPERATIONS POLICY REPORT - 1ST NOVEMBER 2020 TO 28TH FEBRUARY 2021**

The Committee received a presentation from C Barnes regarding the Air Transport Movements and Quiet Operations Policy report for the period 1st November 2020 to 28th February 2021.

The presentation included analysis of the number of air transport movements, number of complaints and individuals from each area (with and without the regular individual) and the total number of complaints compared to the previous year.

The presentation also detailed DSA's annual number of complaints and total air transport movements from 2005 to 2021, the number of night time departures from Runway 20 for the period 1st November 2020 to 28th February 2021, the number of Quota Count 4 Movements from November 2010 to February 2021, the number of Quota Count Points from April 2005 to February 2021 and the number of Engine Tests undertaken during the period September to February 2021.

During the period, a total of 23 complaints had been received, although 15 were from one individual and 8 were not. It was noted that the majority of the complaints were relating to aircraft arrivals during the day (07:00-23:00). There had been no complaints received relating to engine tests.

It was agreed that a map detailing the location of the engine test bays at DSA be circulated with the minutes. **ACTION: C Barnes via A Shirt.** (Attached at Appendix B).

The Committee thanked C Barnes for his informative presentation.

RESOLVED – That the presentation be noted.

10 **COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND**

A Tolhurst reminded Members that the revised Community Investment Fund criteria and application form had been circulated at the beginning of February 2021. The total amount available for 2021 had been increased from £5,000 to £10,000 following Peel Land and Property agreeing to match fund the Airport's contribution to the Community Investment Fund.

To date, four applications had been received totalling £10,789. The deadline for completed applications was 31st March 2021.

All applications would be considered by the ACC at its meeting on 15th April 2021, with recommendations made by the Committee to DSA to either support or decline the bids.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

11 FEEDBACK FROM SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

i) Broken Perimeter Fencing, Station Road, Blaxton

Parish Councillor McCarron reported that the broken perimeter fencing on Station Road, Blaxton had now been repaired by the airport. She thanked the airport for repairing the fencing.

ii) Friends of Doncaster Sheffield Airport (FODSA)

A Bosmans reported that FODSA activity was currently minimal due to current airport operations.

A decision had been taken not to impose any FODSA membership fees for 2021, due to the ongoing pandemic.

A FODSA newsletter would be produced and circulated shortly.

iii) Thank you

Councillor Cox wished to thank the members of the local Parish Councils who had attended the planning session on the Central Plaza development. He also thanked Peel Land and Property for working with the local community.

Councillor Cox also thanked A Tolhurst and A Shirt for developing the revised Community Investment Fund criteria and application form.

iv) NPAS Fixed-Wing Aircrafts

A Tolhurst said that there had been recent reports in the press stating that, NPAS pilots were concerned about the use of fixed-wing aircrafts due to the aircraft not being able to hover, like their previous helicopters did. NPAS were now understood to be reconsidering their fleet.

A Tolhurst asked if NPAS went back to rotatory aircraft, would they still be based at DSA.

K Moran envisaged that NPAS would remain at DSA due to the investment they had made to the infrastructure at the airport, but ultimately, this would be a decision of senior Police Commissioners’.

v) Feedback from Sub-Committee Members

A Tolhurst reminded Members that the purpose of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee and Airport Consultative Committee was to ‘foster communication and build understanding between the airport, its users, local residents and the business community’.

It was important that Members kept everyone informed, who they represent, of activity taking place at DSA.

A Tolhurst commented that residents had voiced concerns that they were not being kept informed of airport activities, despite the hard work undertaken by the ACC and Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee to keep everyone updated and being an active link with local residents.

A Tolhurst asked Members to provide feedback how they kept residents informed of the activities of the airport and this Committee.

Members' unanimously said that they did provide feedback on airport activities at their Town and Parish Council meetings and at the local Trade Union branch office . Minutes of Town and Parish Council meetings were published on websites and placed in noticeboards in local towns/villages. Furthermore, any interesting developments taking place at the airport would also feature in local newsletters and uploaded to social media pages.

Councillor Cox added that a discussion had taken place at the recent Central Plaza development session with regards to the possibility of a quarterly report being produced and published in a local publication (for example, 'The Arrow') to inform residents about what is happening at the airport and to provide a facility of allowing people to ask questions.

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No further items of business were noted.

13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee be held on Thursday 24th June 2021 at 10:00 am.

CHAIR

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