

Consultative Committee

DONCASTER SHEFFIELD AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

NOISE MONITORING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-COMMITTEE

VIRTUAL MEETING

23 SEPTEMBER 2021

PRESENT: A Tolhurst OBE (Chair)

C Barnes (Doncaster Sheffield Airport / Liverpool John Lennon Airport), Parish Councillor R Castle (Substitute Member for Finningley Parish Council), Councillor S Cox (Doncaster MBC), Town Councillor A Cropley (Bawtry Town Council), Councillor L Curran (Doncaster MBC), A Dutton (Doncaster Sheffield Airport / Liverpool John Lennon Airport), Councillor M Greenhalgh (Doncaster MBC), Councillor S Knowles (Doncaster MBC), G Levett (Doncaster MBC), Parish Councillor N McCarron (Blaxton Parish Council), A Shirt (Committee Secretary), Parish Councillor I Swainston (Auckley Parish Council) and Parish Councillor S Ward (Cantley with Branton Parish Council)

Apologies for absence were received from A Bosmans (FODSA), Parish Councillor J Clarke (Finningley Parish Council), Councillor B Johnson (Doncaster MBC), K Moran (Doncaster Sheffield Airport), Town Councillor P Walker (Tickhill Town Council) and Parish Councillor M Watson (North East Bassetlaw Forum / Misson Parish Council)

1 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Tolhurst opened the meeting and informed the Committee that discussions had taken place about holding an in-person meeting today, but a decision had been taken that, as there was still some uncertainty over progress of the pandemic, the meeting would be held via virtual format for a little longer. If Members' had any strong feelings, then they were asked to inform A Tolhurst.

Referring to current events, A Tolhurst said that, a week or so ago the chief executives of Airlines UK and the Airport Operators Association had written to Grant Shapps saying that, in effect, the aviation and tourism industry was on its knees and that a

simpler, more balanced approach to travel restrictions was required, to bring the UK more into line with the rest of Europe.

At the time it seemed there would be no change. Then, last weekend, the newspaper headlines were “Travel boom after Covid Travel rules eased”.

There will still be some destinations on the no-go red list, but, instead of worrying about traffic lights and quarantines, travellers will be able to think about what clothes to take on holiday. They might, of course, still fret about the risk of cancellations, or when their money might be returned should their holiday or journey be cancelled.

Many are said to be booking foreign travel, which is excellent news.

Fortunately, and despite reduced demand, airlines and airports have been operating many flight schedules over the past few months, which, in a shifting landscape, is a tribute to their resilience and fortitude.

That others have been brave enough even to think of starting up new services is surprising; but, for example, that is what Hans Airways and Emerald Airways have done. Hans is planning to provide services to India and Emerald more local routes.

On the face of it, aviation can look forward with some confidence, which is good for the economy. Whether business solutions will be based on partnership working or as go-it-alone enterprises, it is clear that sustainability will be a dominant factor in any planning.

One aspect which regularly generates debate is the impact of night flights.

Later in the agenda there will be a discussion about night flying and its impact at DSA. There will also be a brief discussion about aircraft noise in general and the demise of the Independent Commission for Civil Aircraft Noise. Members’ may recall that the Committee were going to invite the Commission to one of our meetings.

3 MINUTES OF THE NOISE MONITORING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON 24TH JUNE 2021 AND ACTIONS UPDATE

RESOLVED –That the minutes of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee held on 24th June 2021 be agreed as a correct record.

4 MATTERS ARISING

The Committee noted that all actions arising from the meeting held on 24th June 2021 had now been discharged from the Actions Log.

The outstanding action in relation to inviting ICCAN to a future meeting had now been dismissed, due to ICCAN officially being wound down.

5 UKACCS RESPONSE TO DFT CONSULTATION ON FUTURE NIGHT FLIGHTS POLICY

The Committee noted the contents of UKACCs response to the DfT’s future Night Flights Policy Consultation.

The Committee noted that the consultation principally concentrates on the existing night flight restrictions at designated airports (Heathrow, Gatwick and Stanstead) and policy options for the government's future night flight policy at designated airports beyond 2024, and nationally.

A Tolhurst asked for the Committee's views of their own experiences of night flights operating at DSA.

In response, all Members' said that they had received no direct complaints from local residents about night flights operating at DSA.

Parish Councillor Swainston said that he was always woken up during the night by the noise generated from aircraft operating during the night at DSA. He was also very concerned about the impact this was having on his health.

RESOLVED – That UKACCs response to the DfT's Night Flights Policy Consultation be noted.

6 INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON CIVIL AVIATION NOISE'S (ICCAN'S) FUTURE - WRITTEN STATEMENT FROM THE MINISTER FOR AVIATION DATED 6 SEPTEMBER 2021

The Committee noted the contents of a Written Statement from the Minister for Aviation dated 6th September 2021.

Following an independent review of the Independent Commission on Civil Aviation Noise (ICCAN) commissioned by the DfT earlier this year, the Written Statement announced that ICCAN would be wound down in September and the majority of its functions transferred to the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) from April 2022.

A Tolhurst made the Committee aware that, in a report published on the DfT's website reviewing the work of ICCAN, there was one recommendation stating that, "one alternative to ICCAN at a local level, was the suggestion that Airport Consultative Committees (ACCs) could be 'beefed up' as Arm's-Length Bodies (ALBs) from the DfT, with extra funding and expertise". In addition, options involving an 'enhanced ACC' should be considered.

The Committee noted that the UKACCs Secretariat were currently in discussion with the DfT around the recommendations.

A Tolhurst was hopeful that UKACCs would resist the ALB option, due to there being a risk that individuals would be appointed to the ACCs, not necessarily from local authorities.

The Committee discussed the recommendations. Members' were strongly of the opinion that ACCs were the correct vehicle to engage with the local community and take account of local views. It was difficult to see how this could be achieved if individuals were appointed by the DfT.

A Tolhurst agreed to keep the Committee updated with developments.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the Written Statement be noted.

7 ACC NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2021

A Tolhurst informed the Committee that the ACC had agreed to produce a quarterly newsletter update for publication in local editions of the 'Today' magazine.

A copy of the ACC newsletter for August 2021 was presented for Members' information and feedback.

Members' welcomed publication of the newsletter, but highlighted that it had not been published in the Blaxton or Brantley editions of the 'Today' magazine.

Town Councillor Cropley said that he had noted the update in the Bawtry edition of the Today magazine.

Members' suggested that the newsletter also be published in the local editions of the Arrow magazine, Doncaster Gazette and Thorne Times. A Tolhurst agreed to speak with S Boote about the wider circulation of the newsletter. **ACTION: A Tolhurst**

Parish Councillor McCarron suggested that the newsletter also be circulated via email by the Committee Secretary to all ACC and Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-Committee Members for inclusion on local Town and Parish Council websites.

Councillor Curran suggested that the newsletter also be circulated via the Committee Secretary to all local Town and Parish Council Clerks for inclusion on agendas as correspondence.

A Tolhurst thanked Members' for their suggestions.

Town Councillor Cropley suggested that it may be appropriate to include a reminder in a future newsletter to inform residents which destinations they can fly to from DSA.

If Members had any further suggestions for topics to be included in future newsletters which would be of benefit to local residents, they were asked to forward these on to the Committee Secretary.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the ACC newsletter for August 2021 be noted.

8 AIR TRANSPORT MOVEMENTS AND QUIET OPERATIONS POLICY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JUNE TO 31ST AUGUST 2021

The Committee received a presentation from C Barnes regarding the Air Transport Movements and Quiet Operations Policy report for the period 1st June to 31st August 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 June to 31st August 2021, together with a table setting out Flight Priority Categories.

The presentation also included details of the number of night time departures that did not follow the Noise Preferential Route from June to August 2021, the number of Quota Count 4 Movements from June to August 2021, the number of Quota Count Points used from April 2005 to August 2021, and the number of Engine Tests undertaken during the period June to August 2021.

In addition, the presentation provided Members with a comparison of the number of movements at DSA from 4th to 10th August 2019, 2nd to 8th August 2020 and 1st to 7th August 2021.

During the period, a total of 49 complaints had been received, although 21 were from one individual and 28 were not. It was noted that the majority of the complaints were relating to aircraft arrivals during the day (07:00-23:00).

On 14th June 2021 the airport had received 8 complaints in relation to an RAF C17 undertaking 9 training circuits. There had been no complaints received relating to engine tests.

In response to a query from Councillor Curran, C Barnes confirmed that the complaint received from a Hatfield resident was in relation to a police aircraft circling in the area.

The Committee thanked C Barnes for his informative presentation.

RESOLVED – That the presentation be noted.

9 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

A Dutton reported that DSA was a signatory to national Sustainable Aviation involving airlines, airline manufacturers and air traffic service providers to produce a Road Noise Map and a Carbon Noise Map, together with lobbying for assistance with sustainable fuels which are non-hydrocarbon based.

A Tolhurst reported that there was news in today's press that a Japanese-based company was working on an electrically powered vertical take-off and landing aircraft for local short distance routes.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

10 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

A Dutton reported that DSA had recently made a decision to invest in defibrillators for use in the local community. DSA's Fire Service Team would be leading on the initiative. Dave Monks would be looking at locations for the installation of defibrillators in the community.

Councillor Curran asked if the Committee could be advised of the locations where the defibrillators would be installed.

A Dutton said that he would contact K Moran to obtain further details. An update would be provided by email after today's meeting. **ACTION: A Dutton via K Moran.**

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

11 FEEDBACK FROM SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

i) DSA's Community Investment Fund – Wadworth Maypole

Councillor Greenhalgh reported that a publicity event would take place in October to officially open the Wadworth Maypole.

ii) Update on Committee Work

Parish Councillor Swainston reported that he had provided a detailed update on the work of the Committee at Auckley Parish Council meeting following the June Sub-Committee meeting. He would also provide a further update at the forthcoming Parish Council meeting.

Parish Councillor Swainston said that he would also ask the Parish Council if they would consider paying for the ACC Newsletter to be published in the local Auckley edition of the Arrow magazine.

iii) Excessive HGV Traffic in Bawtry / Road Signage to DSA

Town Councillor Cropley reported that he was continuing to receive complaints from residents about excessive HGV traffic travelling through Bawtry Town Centre.

The local road signs were still directing hauliers to the airport through Bawtry and not via the Great Yorkshire Way. He understood that this issue was not the responsibility of DSA, but wished to make the Committee aware.

A Tolhurst suggested that this issue be raised at Bawtry Town Council via Doncaster MBC Highways.

Councillor Cox said that he was a member of the local Quarry Liaison Group and could feed comments back to this Group. He asked Town Councillor Cropley to forward further information by email which he could report at the next meeting of the local Quarry Liaison Group.

iv) Noise Complaints

Parish Councillor Castle reported that, although there had been no complaints directly received by Finningley Parish Council, there had been reports on social media stating that noise from aircraft was disproportional to the size of the aircraft.

v) Thank you

Councillor Cox wished to thank Peel Land and Property for their engagement in cutting the grass of parcels of land in the local community.

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 9th December 2021 at 10:00 am.

CHAIR

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