

Airport Consultative Committee

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS WORKING PARTY

5th July 2023 @ 09.30 hours,

Meeting held at Lulsgate House and virtually using Microsoft Teams

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting

Present:

David Hall, Chairman

Hannah Pollard, Head of Sustainability, Bristol Airport (HP)

Whitney Love, Sustainability Officer

Matthew Sharp, Planning Manager

Laurie Vaughn - Wrington Parish Council (LV)

Hilary Burn, Cleeve Parish Council (HB)

Gill Patch, Winford Parish Council (GP)

Dee Mawn, North Somerset Council (RA)

Alicia Fox- secretary

Mathew Johns- Johns Associates

Apologies for absence

Jacqui Mills, Public Relations and Community Manager, Bristol Airport

Roger Wood, Yatton Parish Council (RW)

Lindsay Howe North Somerset Council (RA)

- **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 4th April 2023**

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

- **Matters arising from previous meetings**

- *April action: Request to contact DfT in relation to their studies and what Bristol Airport can do to help- Hannah to roll the action on and update at the next month.*

HP- The DfT have tried to be contacted following the action from the previous minutes however Bristol Airport team have had no response. It is therefore suggested that members reach out individually if they wish.

- *April action: HB- How many EV charging points will be installed?*

MS- As per the planning conditions of the 12mmpa, **we have submitted an EV strategy and the focus will be on the provision of a new EV Charging Hub outside of Lulsgate House**

- **HB queried progress of Climate Change Action Plan**
 - **MS advised that this was submitted about a year ago to NSC – a joint Air Quality and Climate Change Plan. We have been having discussions with NSC officers about how best to address matters. We have combined air quality and climate change as we believe they are intrinsically linked, but understand they are two conditions. Draft separate AMR template chapters, one chapter on Air Quality, and a separate chapter on Climate Change have now been submitted to NSC. We are currently awaiting feedback from NSC.**
 - *April action: HB- Carbon offsetting do not have the real value they are supposed to have. Could we have an update at the next EEWP meeting on the credits that have been purchased?*
- HP- 26 thousand tonnes of carbon credits have been purchased and verified to the gold standard. As part of the evolving Sustainability Strategy the airport will be improving the social value. The airport are currently in discussions with the executive team and the outcome will be shared once it has been agreed.

- **Sustainability Update- 2nd Quarter 2023**

Presentation given from Mathew Johns- Director of Johns Associates

Slides are attached in appendix A

DH asked how MJ was able to identify the Horseshoe Bats.

MJ- there are prescriptive transits and bat detectors used to monitor between April- October prior to their hibernation. They compare statistics against previous statistics.

JP- 20-30 years ago the Sky Larks were on Felton Common, these are now migrated to the grasslands near the runway, are they still there?

MJ- We do not monitor the grassland near the runway however airside operations do bird counts and have said there is a good diversity of birds. The long grass is kept at a length where it does not impact the birds habitat.

HB- With the woodland that has been bought, how will water get there for the cattle?

MJ- The watering points will be close to the central track and taken up in a vehicle. The grazing will not be continuous only during certain periods. Looking to use GPS collars to create a virtual grazing fence.

HB how will the cattle be prevented from eating saplings?

MJ there will be fencing and dead hedges created to avoid saplings being eaten.

HB with 80% of the trees being removed, therefore losing a large carbon sink where will the replanting be?

MJ there is no requirement for replanting as a habitat is being created in open woodland, however the airport expectation is that replanting will take place.

HP advised no location has been confirmed but they are looking at possible sites.

HB asked why the EIA is not on the North Somerset Council website after being requested by the Forestry Commission.

MJ has confirmed an EIA is not required as it is outside of the screening threshold as they are maintaining woodland. Johns Associate are following the required approach. There are enough trees for the required open canopy and are not going below the threshold per ½ hectare to require an EIA.

HB is there an increase or decrease in the biodiversity and bats?

MJ- It is difficult to tell due to the advancement in technology. With 2005, 2018 and 2020 data it is a quantitative approach. Personal view is that with Cogloop1 there are more areas that have become more biodiverse and the hedgerow management is now roosting bats. The quantitative data will be compared over the coming years.

Sustainability update from Hannah Pollard

Slides are attached as appendix B

-BAL currently working with Business in the Community on evolving their sustainability strategy

-2.8-acre solar installation begun which will save 1.6 mw of energy

-AMR draft complete. Waiting on verification of carbon footprint. Will be circulated with ACC meeting minutes

-Preparation for airport and community Wildflowering project has begun

-NAP: Public consultation live. As there are no new changes beyond 12mppa, we have not opened it up to the public given that these changes were out in the public domain during 12mppa consultation. We have invited feedback from ACC (as a collective) and also welcome feedback

from parish councils in addition to ACC members who may want to submit feedback as an individual

-Noise Insulation Scheme: complete and the full £85k was used, no one was turned away.

-Fewer environmental noise complaints each month of 2023 to date compared to 2022

HB tried to submit an online noise complaint on the same day but the system would not allow it so she left a voicemail. The complaint was in May but no response has been received.

LV- Also submitted a complaint but was unsatisfied with the lack of follow up.

HP/WL will look into this.

HB was disappointed the Noise Action Plan was not taken to the EEWP and asked what alternative data was used to compare the data with the 2006, 2011 and 2016 noise action plans?

HP- will come back with a response.

HB enquired about how many old Ryanair aircraft are still being used?

JP stated she was unaware of any aircraft that did not follow the tracking receiving a fine.

- **Planning update**

Following the High Court decision on the 12mppa planning permission, Bristol Airport Action Network applied to appeal to the Court Appeal. This application was denied on 10 th May 2023.

For legal purposes, 10th May is now the 'effective date'.

A number of S106 legal obligations are triggered by the 'effective date' – including the submission of a replacement Airport Surface Access Strategy (subject to a recent engagement).

Material to discharge five conditions was required to be submitted to NSC within specific timeframes. This material has been submitted (Ref: 22/P/1863/AOC) and (23/P/0176/AOC)

- 8 – Air Quality Action Plan – (Discussions with NSC Officers continuing)
- 9 - Climate and Carbon Change Action Plan - (Discussions with NSC Officers continuing)
- 10 – Scheme for installation of electric vehicle charging points – (agreement in principle with Highway Officers)
- 11 – Strategy for increasing number of electric taxis – (agreement in principle with Highway Officers)
- 5 – Methodology for keeping within the 12mppa cap (Discussions with Officers continuing)

Further material to discharge 12mppa conditions: (23/P/1039/AOC)

- 20 & 25 – Integrated Landscape and Biodiversity Mitigation and Management Plans
- 23 – Biodiversity Construction Management Plan
- 24 – Scheme of Grassland Mitigation and Translocation
- 30 – Groundwater Monitoring Plan (23/P/0918/AOC)

Permitted Development Consultations

1. A permitted development consultation for a new intake electricity substation was submitted to NSC on 6 th April. The reference number is 23/P/0766/AIN. The LPA had no comments to make.
2. A permitted development consultation to sub-divide a boarding gate to create an additional gate was submitted on 4 th May. The reference number is 23/P/0989/AIN. The LPA had no comments to make.

Update on Other applications submitted to North Somerset Council

A prior approval for the installation of solar panels on the roof of the Snow Base was submitted to NSC on 5 th April. The reference is 23/P/0723/SJA. The scheme was approved on 26 th May.

Along with the ground mounted panels south of the runway, the scheme will help to achieve the Airport's target of having 25% of its energy provided onsite.

A non-material amendment for MSCP2 and the PTI was submitted to NSC on 5 th April. The reference is 23/P0810/NMA. The scheme already has consent as part of the 10mppa permission, but we are looking to make some minor changes to the design. The NMA is accompanied by a permitted development consultation for onsite road layout changes to serve the scheme. Still awaiting a decision on this.

Consultations and Applications to be Submitted in the Next Quarter

As previously reported, we are also looking to locate an EV Hub adjacent to Lulsgate House. A PD consultation for the new Hub is likely soon. Design is going through its final stages. The Hub will provide rapid and ultra rapid charging facilities for electric vehicles – meaning a charge time could be as low as 10 minutes. It will have a food and beverage offer, along with waiting facilities.

We are looking to relocate the current free waiting area to be immediately adjacent to the new Hub, making this a more attractive designated waiting area, hopefully meaning fewer taxis and passengers waiting in inappropriate locations and residential areas.

A planning application to enclose the external roof terrace of the terminal building so it becomes part of the internal space is also expected to be submitted this summer. The external roof terrace is an under-utilised area of the terminal. Incorporating the area within the main terminal building will provide a more usable year-round space for passengers.

(Due to the nature of operational development, there is the possibility of additional GPDO requests / planning applications in the next quarter.)

- **Any other business (AOB)**

HB advised she supports the Parish Council Airport Association joining the EEWP.

- **Dates for future Meetings 2023**

- **To enable future meetings to be conducted and minutes produced to be included in the Consultative Committee packs this is the date for the next Environmental Effects Working Party:**
 - **3rd October 2023**
 - **9th January 2024**

Distribution:

Members of the Environmental Effect Working Party, plus the Airport Consultative Committee.