

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BRISTOL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE BRISTOL ROOM AT BRISTOL AIRPORT
ON WEDNESDAY 30TH JANUARY 2013**

Meeting commenced: 2.30 p.m.

Meeting concluded: 4.02p.m.

Present:

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| Peter Lacey | Chairman |
| Simon Spooner | CBI |
| Robert Durie | GWE Business West |
| Stephen Grove | ABTA/GTMC |
| Peter Taplin | SW Region and Bristol TUC |
| Councillor Colin Smith | Bristol City Council |
| Councillor Annabel Tall | North Somerset Council |
| Councillor Peter Edwards | Bath and North East Somerset Council |
| Councillor Roz Willis | Weston-super-Mare Town Council |
| Councillor Basil Bucknell | Backwell Parish Council |
| Councillor Hilary Burn | Cleeve Parish Council |
| Councillor Gill Patch | Winford Parish Council |
| Councillor David Glynn | Wrington Parish Council |
| Councillor Jane Bollen | Yatton Parish Council |
| Robert Sinclair | Chief Executive, Bristol Airport |

Also in attendance:

Alan Davies, Planning & Environment Director, Bristol Airport
James Gore, Head of Communications, Bristol Airport
Jacqui Mills, Public Relations Manager, Bristol Airport
Mike Littleton, Community Relations Manager, Bristol Airport
Chris Ware, Head of Security, Bristol Airport
Inspector Barney Gardom, Avon and Somerset Police
Robin Tutcher, WPD Helicopter Unit
Vicky Brice, Secretary

1414. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tony Heaford (Chew Valley Cluster of Parishes) and Richard Kent (Head of Development Management, North Somerset Council)

1415. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTED MEMBERS

No declarations of interest were submitted by local authority elected members at this meeting.

1416. MINUTES – 7th NOVEMBER 2012

a) Confirmation of Accuracy

The Minutes of the meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee held on 7th November 2012, copies of which had been previously circulated, were submitted for approval and adoption.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman, subject to the list of members present being amended to include Councillor Basil Bucknell (Backwell Parish Council)

b) Matters arising – there were no matters arising.

1417. PRESENTATION BY MR ROBIN TUTCHER – WDP HELICOPTER UNIT

Mr R Tutcher from WPD Helicopter Unit made a presentation outlining the history and purpose of the Helicopter Unit. The Unit had provided 50 years of service to the electricity industry and made in excess of 2,500 flying hours per year. There were 4 helicopters, with 5 pilots and 3 observers covering the South West, Wales and Midlands areas – the largest network operator in the UK. The work included visual inspections of the electricity network (operating between 30 -200 ft), line stringing (flying lines across hard to access places such as lakes), commercial air transport, security patrols and emergency and faults. A helicopter could reach a site within its area within one hour. A single hourly rate was charged. A management system was in place to address complaints received due to low flying helicopters, but great care was taken to repair lines etc. with minimal disruption.

In response to a question, Mr Tutcher confirmed that, at present, their work could not be undertaken by unmanned aerial vehicles, also known as drones, as the staff within the unit could land, get an engineer to the site and analyse the situation quickly. He also confirmed that a carbon reduction policy was in hand but that the new helicopters had lower emissions and were quieter than the older models. In response to a further question, Mr Tutcher confirmed that where the lines were over-head it was much more economical to use helicopters to carry out inspections/work. The Unit covered several regions, spending approximately 5 hours a day flying and complied with airport regulations.

1418. QUESTIONS TO THE AIRPORT MANAGEMENT

The Committee received a detailed question to the Airport Management submitted by Councillor Hilary Burn regarding noise insulation and mitigation. A detailed reply was presented in the form of a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was tabled at the meeting and is inserted in the Minute Book. The reply outlined the planning obligations, criteria for noise insulation, government guidance, onset of annoyance, shoulder periods, noise

monitoring and length of residency. In response to a further query, it was confirmed that the annual figures for the number of movements in the shoulder periods (between 06:00 and 07:00 and 23:00 and 23:30), would be available shortly but that the Airport was operating well within the limits.

RESOLVED: that the question and the reply be noted.

1419. Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive presented his report. The following key points were noted.

a) Overview of Current Activities

The airport had been busy over the Christmas and New Year break, with snow providing a challenging situation on two separate occasions in mid-January. The first incident had required the closure of the airport for 6 hours whilst a huge effort was made by all to get the airport operational. The second incident had had less of an impact on the airport – causing greater issues for road travel although the main roads had remained accessible. It was a credit to the staff that the airport had opened by 7am. 91 flights had been lost in total.

There had been a 3% growth in passenger numbers in 2012 with air transport movements down by approximately 4%, with a record few months.

b) Passenger Experience Improvements

Public Transportation developments included a new Greyhound bus service from South Wales and an hourly service from Bath, both starting in March. The new executive lounge was due to open in early April.

c) Capital Projects

An application for a non-material amendment to the 2011 planning permission in respect of the central walkway had been submitted to North Somerset Council. Reference was made to the Dreamliner aircraft which, whilst a bigger aircraft than the Boeing 767 aircraft currently operated by Thomson, was quieter. In response to a question, airport management would endeavour to provide figures on the noise impact of this aircraft on residents.

d) New Routes for 2012/13

New routes being introduced shortly included BMI Regional flights to Frankfurt and Hamburg, as well as flights to Aberdeen, Corsica and Chania (Ryanair). An Airbus shuttle to Toulouse and Chester had relocated from Filton following the closure of the airfield and was now operational.

e) Cardiff Airport

In response to a question, the airport management confirmed that they were aware of the issues relating to Cardiff Airport, including proposals to devolve air passenger duty to the National Assembly for Wales and were monitoring the situation closely. A number of MPs and organisations had expressed their concerns

1420. PLANNING MATTERS – UPDATE

The Skills and Employment Plan and Surface Access Strategy had been submitted to North Somerset Council, as well as the Central Walkway non-material amendment application.

1421. POLICING AT THE AIRPORT

Inspector Barney Gardom advised that the threat level category for inbound aviation had remained at “substantial”. 84 offences had been recorded at the airport during 1st April 2012 – 31st December 2012 which was just slightly higher than the previous year. A couple of examples were given. The trial of the animal rights protestors had been finalised, with three being found guilty of public order offences, with one being found not guilty. The police wished to support the airport, particularly during difficult situations, such as severe weather. He drew attention to several forthcoming events which would affect the airport and, hence, require the support of the police. In response to a question he advised that the Police Community Support Officers who attended the airport were employed by Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

1422. STATISTICS

a) Passenger

The Committee received a report, a copy of which is inserted in the Minute Book, setting out comparable passenger statistics for the whole of 2011 and 2012. In response to a question, it was noted that passengers on charter flights had decreased slightly in 2012 compared with 2011, but air transport movements by charter airlines had seen a small increase. It was thought that the small changes might result in minor adjustments to aircraft types and changes to the number of ad-hoc charter flights.

b) Aircraft Movements

The Committee received a report, a copy of which is inserted in the Minute Book, setting out comparable aircraft movements for the whole of 2011 and 2012. In response to a question, it was confirmed that there were no freight movements. The freight road sign was intended to direct deliveries to the airport whilst road-works were in place.

c) Flyer Volumes

The Committee received a graph, a copy of which is inserted in the Minute Book, setting out the total passenger volumes for the Bristol Flyer Service for the period January 2003 to December 2012.

RESOLVED: that the reports and graph be noted.

1423. NOISE MANAGEMENT

The Committee received a report, a copy of which is inserted in the Minute Book, in relation to the night noise quota. The night noise quota used in summer of 2012 had been one of the lowest on record and the number of aircraft movements in the night quota period was at an all-time low. The number of take offs and landings in relation to condition 38 were well within the limit stipulated.

Complaints were at an all-time low and 27% down compared with 2011.

The tracker system was proving helpful to the police in combating laser crime.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

1424. SERVICE QUALITY REPORT

The Committee received a report, a copy of which is inserted in the Minute Book, identifying customer feedback and complaints on services provided by the Airport for the period 1st October to 31st December 2012. The report showed a continuous reduction in complaints (22% less this year) with the top three general complaints including a reference to wet passengers and luggage! Security complaints continued to be challenging partly due to infrequent flyers still being unfamiliar with the rules relating to liquids.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

1425. PEOPLE UPDATE

The Committee received a report, a copy of which is inserted in the Minute Book, updating on World Host Training, Best Companies – Employee Engagement Survey, Bristol Airport Employers Forum, Apprenticeships, a Charity Working Day and Re-designed appraisal system. A member welcomed the staff involvement in the survey and it was agreed that the support of the staff had been reflected in their hard work in keeping the airport operational during the severe weather. Information from the Best Company survey would be circulated to the committee, when known, together with information on the World Host Training (the final report was due in September 2013 but some data may be available before then). The Employers Forum had been held during the morning of 30th January 2013.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

1426. BRISTOL AIRPORT LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting held on 7th December 2012, which were tabled at the meeting and are inserted in the Minute Book. In response to a question, it was noted that grants were not restricted to the six parishes. The next meeting would be held on 22 March 2013 and any applications would need to be received two weeks before, for inclusion on the agenda.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th October 2012 be noted.

1427. BRS PRESS RELEASES

The Committee received copies of BRS press releases issued during the period 1st November 2012 to 14th January 2013, copies of which are inserted in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED: that the BRS press releases be noted.

1428. MINUTES - ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS WORKING PARTY

The Committee received the Minutes of the last meeting of the Environmental Effects Working Party held on 9th January 2013, a copy of which is inserted in the Minute Book. This included information on noise monitoring data.

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Environmental Effects Working Party held on 9th January 2013 be noted.

1429. ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

The Committee received a report, a copy of which is inserted in the Minute Book, updating members on the date of the next UK Airport Consultative Committees' Annual Meeting (4th and 5th June 2013), the Airports Commission, the Transport Committee's Aviation Strategy Inquiry and the Civil Aviation Act 2012.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

1430. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – none.

1431. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee would be held at 2.30 pm on Wednesday, 1st May 2013, the deadline for questions being received by the Secretary being 12 noon on Wednesday 10 April 2013.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed.