

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BRISTOL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE HELD USING MICROSOFT TEAMS ON 18th January 2023

Meeting commenced: 2.30pm Meeting concluded: 3.55pm

**Present:** 

David Hall Chairman

Councillor Roy Hill Chew Valley Cluster of Parishes

Councillor Robin Moss Bath and North East Somerset Council

Councillor Laurie Vaughn Wrington Parish Council

Councillor Gill Patch Winford Parish Council

Councillor Joachim Steinbach Parish Council Airport Association

Neil Bromwich CBI

Richard Capps TUC, Bristol and South West Region

Robert Durie Business West and Bristol Chamber and Initiative

Dave Lees Chief Executive of Bristol Airport

Also in attendance:-

Matthew Sharp Planning Manager, Bristol Airport

Jacqui Mills Public Relations Manager, Bristol Airport

James Shearman Head of Sustainability, Bristol Airport

Harry Ellis Corporate Affairs Executive

Alicia Fox Secretary

1 members of the public.

3110. Public Participation

None

3111. Apologies for Absence

Ian Porter Vice Chairman/ Interim Chairman

Wendy Walker Passenger interests / ABTA/ATOL

John Savage Visit West

Councillor Paul Goggin Bristol City Council



Councillor Robert Martin Backwell Parish Council

Councillor Hilary Burn Cleeve Parish Council

District Councillor Steve Hogg North Somerset Council

Carl Symonds Airlines operating from the Airport

Simon Earles Sustainability and Corporate Affairs Director, Bristol Airport

# 3112. Declarations of Interest for Local Authority Elected Members - none

# 3113. Minutes from 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022 (previously circulated)

# a) Confirmation of Accuracy:

Amendment from JSt minute 3089 will be changed from:

"The manufacturing of Hydrogen if it needs nuclear manufacturing where will it come from?"

To "JSt inquired how the hydrogen would be produced. To what extent would the production depend on nuclear power."

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022 be confirmed as a correct record with the above amendment and be signed by the Chairman.

# b) Matters Arising None

# 3114. Presentation from Groundwork Trust

DH introduced Hannah Baker, West of England Area Programme Manager at Groundwork South.

Hannah introduced herself to the ACC and gave an outline to her role within Groundwork Trust and some of their projects.

The full presentation can be seen in Appendix A

# Goblin Combe aims:

Effectively and proactively manage the woodland in line with its SSSI and SNCI status. Manage the lodge site so that it is a well-loved outdoor and environmental education centre, which enhances the well-being and personal development of a wide range of site users and hirers.

To do so in line with Groundwork South's charitable aims and priorities, working with community groups, charities and local businesses to make sure that Goblin Combe is reaching its full potential.

Goblin Combe lodge reopened in April 2022 on a self-service hire basis for daytime and overnight bookings. Various work completed or in progress at the lodge site and wider woodland. There is now a caretaker on site 3 days per weeks working across the lodge and the woodland. Priorities:

- New centre manager
- Programme of activities at the lodge site



- Essential lodge site works- faulty boiler, toilet block and additional internal space
- Ash die back in the woodland
- Woodland management plan
- Interpretation boards across the woodland.

# Airport Partnership:

New sustainability partnership launched in October 2022 aiming to protect and enhance Goblin Combe's woodland and make the lodge site a centre for sustainable excellence.

RC- Will dealing with the Ash die back cause severely restricted access? Are their other tree diseases lurking?

HB- Not envisaging any long period restricted access, dealing with trees around the main paths first and the tree surgeon has put a priority list together. Surveys have been carried out has not shown and other high priority challenges with the trees.

DH- Is there a replanting programme coming forward?

HB- Any trees removed will be replaced. Lots of offers of people power and saplings but will wait until a Woodland Management plan is in place to ensure the right species are planted.

DH thanked HB for her time and useful presentation.

Presentation will be circulated with the minutes.

# **3115. Chief Executive Officer Report**

CEO report has been circulated in advance of the meeting. DL highlighted he is very much looking forward to the collaboration with Groundwork Trust.

DL opened the floor for questions.

JSt-Storage of hydrogen is very complicated you need ultra low temperatures which is energy intensive. This seems to be an unresolved issue, is there an alternative?

DL- Hydrogen is rapidly evolving and other forms of storage are being investigated such as Polynet and Acetate Hydrogen. There is a lot of research and work ongoing and a trial using Hydrogen as jet fuel, but DL acknowledges there are issues to overcome.

Alternatives include electric which are being looked into and trialled with the Vertical Flight programme and also sustainable fuel for long haul flights.

NB- Biggest issue is finding the items which are ready to use Hydrogen. By looking at matching the power plant with the hydrogen source means the hydrogen infrastructure allows the hydrogen to be fully renewable.

DH- Would Hydrogen Southwest be able to do a presentation to the ACC?

DL- We can arrange for them to attend an ACC meeting in April or July.

JSt- Are sustainable aviation fuels available?

DL- There has been a lot of funding and investment into sustainable aviation fuels and many different methods to create and store the fuel. It will be a key part of being carbon neutral especially while the network for Hydrogen is built up. A presentation from Sustainable Aviation Fuels can be given.



# RC- Blue Hydrogen

In the CEO report you talk about new jobs being created, the news talk about a recruitment crisis. The offer from unions is still there to get plans in place to upskill current employees. The wages aren't there but upskilling would help. What skills and learning plans are there at the moment?

DL- Jet2 are recruiting for 100 new roles- customer service agents, engineering and baggage handlers. The Airport as a whole have a wide scale of jobs available from food and beverage to highly skilled engineers. The recruitment crisis is not unique at the airport, the Southwest has a much lower unemployment rate than the rest of the country.

BA are offering a real living wage and some salaries are far beyond inflation.

MS – confirmed that the 12mppa permission contains a commitment to produce a skills and employment plan for the Airport. The plan will seek to ensure the Airport uses contractors who use local labour, local supply chains and offer apprenticeship schemes for example. In addition, the plan will also cover Airport employees, and will look to set up schemes and programmes linked with schools and colleges to ensure we recruit and retain people from the region. Ultimately, the plan will try to ensure wider employment and skills benefits are passed to the local community, and they are able to benefit from the Airport's expansion as well. The plan needs to be approved by North Somerset Council and we have had some early conversations with them about how it may look. At present, it's at an early stage.

### 3116. Questions to Airport Management

Cllr John Sleigh, former Backwell member

As part of the airport's work to net zero I trust there is a plan to reduce the energy consumed by lighting at the airport in the future. This will be a clear sign that the Airport is serious about its targets.

JS highlighted some of the energy savings that have been completed:

- Solar panels
- Consolidated car rental centre
- Car wash centre
- Chillers and water tanks are managed on site
- CO2 sensors are installed and only turn on when needed
- CAS removal- utilise heating
- EV buses in place
- Working with onsite 3<sup>rd</sup> party business parties which have also switched to EV vehicles
- LED lighting has been updated

Scope 1 and 2 emissions are reduced and will be processed in the 2022 Annual Monitoring Report.

JSt- Airport Airspace CAP 1616, would be useful to have an update. CAP 2492 Consultation has been launched, is somebody at the airport picking this up?

DL- Airspace change quite a protracted process, almost all airports are required look at their airspace. BA have completed stage B last year. We are now going into stage 3 which looks at the consultation stage and this will be taking place in 2023 but currently unsure of the timeline. It is not unique, and it is for lower-level airspace under 7000 feet, but above that there are still other changes which will be taking place.

DH- CAP 2492 is the consultation and CAP 1616 is how to respond to CAP2492. DH seeking guidance from UKACCS to see if there is methodology for the response but a draft will be put together and then circulated to members for comments. Members can also complete the consultation as individuals.



JM- The airport consultations will not be taking place until the first part of 2024. We will try and get either ACOG or the CAA to come and update the ACC.

# **3117. Planning Update**

12mppa Planning Permission

The Planning Inspectors' recommendation and Secretary of State's decision on the associated Compulsory Purchase Order have not yet been received.

The Appeal Decision is currently subject to Statutory Challenge. Decision expected anytime in the next couple of months.

Material to discharge four conditions was required to be submitted to NSC within 6 months of the 12mppa decision date. This material has been submitted (Ref: 22/P/1863/AOC), but the discharge of condition application is still currently under consideration. The Airport submitted material to discharge the following conditions:

- 8 Air Quality Action Plan (Further discussion with NSC Officers necessary)
- 9 Climate and Carbon Change Action Plan (Further discussion with NSC Officers necessary)
- 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)

An application to the Secretary of State to designate Bristol Airport as fully coordinated was made in the summer. BAL working with DfT to address some questions raised. Likely to be another DfT public consultation.

# **Permitted Development Consultations**

A permitted development consultation has been submitted to NSC for the installation of solar panels on three sites south of the runway (totalling 1.145ha). The reference is 22/P/2376/AIN.

The scheme will help to deliver the Airport's net zero ambitions and to meet its public target of having 25% of its energy generated by its own renewable sources by the end of 2025. NSC confirmed they had no objections on 16 December 2022. Tenders for the work are currently under consideration and it is hoped the panels will be in place by the summer.

# **Update on Applications Submitted to North Somerset Council**

A discharge of condition application in relation to the 12mppa four conditions was submitted in July (see above).

# Consultations and Applications to be Submitted in the Next Quarter

Consultation on MSCP2 and the Public Transport Interchange is likely to occur in early February. The scheme already has consent as part of the 10mppa permission, but we are looking to make some minor changes to the design. We'll therefore submit a Non-Material Amendment to NSC which will be consulted upon. This will also be accompanied by a permitted development consultation for onsite road layout changes to serve the scheme.



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 in the next quarter. 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.

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

## **REPORTS FOR INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS**

# 3118. Statistics (report attached)

- (a) Passenger
- (b) Aircraft movements
- (c) Flyer volumes

These were noted by the committee.

#### 3119. Reports:

 Draft Minutes – Environmental Effects Working Party and Environmental Monitoring Report (on website)

Noise action plan is required by DEFRA, therefore this will be worked on in quarter 1 with consultations going out in quarter 2 and 3 ready for submission in quarter 4.

- Bristol Airport Local Community Fund (on website)
- Transport Forum Minutes

JSt-The Transport Forum does not seem to be integrated into the ACC, should the ACC not be a subcommittee of the ACC?

DL- Statutory requirement to have an Airport Transport Forum which stands alone. Primary purpose is to link together operators and understand the mechanics.

JS- Transport Forum has a dotted line to the ACC. The idea is that the member of the ACC who sits on the ATF and any specific questions from either group can pass questions through that member.



JSt- "Grants will not be awarded to organisations which have statutory responsibilities such as local authorities, hospitals, surgeries, or clinics unless it is for a project which is over and above their core activities and statutory obligations." There should be no way that the Community Fund should fund North Somerset to paint red lines.

DH- The matter was debated at the meeting and it was agreed that the application did meet the requirements of Community Fund grant.

• Press releases link was attached to the agenda.

These were noted by the committee.

#### 3120. Items of General Interest

DH- Attendance at the UKACCS annual meeting in November. Encouraging to see the enthusiasm with the other ACCs and note the common issues. Slow airport recovery and labour shortage was reported. CAP 1616 and CAP 2492 awaiting advice on best practice for a response, which will then be shared with members.

CAA call for evidence, if any members have any comments please share with AF.

GP- Update on the Disability Forum. The aim for this forum meet up was to get from Southside to the Boarding Gate. Wheelchair users could not reach the fobs they needed which was highlighted. The was a very varied range of disabilities all with unique circumstances. Members of the disability forum were expected when we got to the terminal and it was a quiet day so not a real life experience. Blind member asked how she would get from the drop off to the terminal? Visually impaired member asked how do I know which level I am getting out on? This was the lift in the

main terminal, although there was only one level to exit the lift she was not aware if there were more.

Lady with Macular Degeneration found it hard to read the signs with the colours used.

Other airports have designated disability security lanes but currently Bristol does not. GP said she found it a very interesting day but humbled by the fact people with disabilities still wanted to travel.

DL- asked if she felt those with the disabilities would people rather travel with a partner to help with the issues.

GP- That was not raised. Tenerife airport has its facilities for disabilities perfected.

JM- Thanked GP for attending the disability forum. Team are taking questions/ points raised by the forum forward following on from a briefing with Andy who advises the airport. Andy could be asked to attend an ACC meeting for a presentation.

# 3121. Notification of Items of Business for the Next Agenda

JSt- Airspace Change proposal CAP 1616

#### 3122. Any other business which the Chairman deems to be urgent



DL- Advised the ACC that James Sherman will be leaving the airport in April and wanted to share his thanks and appreciation for all his help.

Meeting closed 3.55pm.