

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY
4th APRIL 2001 AT 7 PM AT CITY AVIATION HOUSE,
LONDON CITY AIRPORT**



PRESENT:

John Adshead	Chair
Bill Dunlop	Deputy Chair
Stuart Innes	Secretary
Alan Medlock	London City Airport
Gary Hodgetts	London City Airport
Cllr Pat Holland	London Borough of Newham
Richard Beeching	London Development Agency
Cllr Alan Taylor	Custom House and Canning Town Community Forum
Gertie Duffy	North Woolwich and Silvertown Community Forum
David Atkins	Cyprus TRAs
Glynis Webb	North Woolwich TRAs
Robin Whitehouse	London Borough of Newham
Max Dixon	Greater London Authority (Observer)
Roderick Hamer	Airport Chaplain (Observer)

APOLOGIES:

Howard Sheppard	Docklands Business Club
Sid Keys	Silvertown TRAs
David Kent	ABTA
Dirk Peterson	LCCI
Hamish Stewart	RODMA
Peter Mendham	Beckton Area Team

IN ATTENDANCE:

Rob Grafton	London City Airport
Mike Nagel	Royal Docks Waterski Club

1. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee congratulated Alan Taylor on his election as a member of Newham Council. He said he was unsure whether his election would prevent him from representing the Custom House and Canning Town Community Forum as a member of the Consultative Committee. He would check the position and contact the Secretary.

2. PRESENTATION – SURFACE ACCESS

Using slides showing the latest data from the CAA Passenger Survey and other sources Alan Medlock brought the Committee up to date on travel patterns to and from the Airport. The slide show would be reproduced on the Committee's web shortly.

3. The **MINUTES** of the meeting held on Wednesday 10th January 2001 were approved as a correct record of the discussions at that meeting.

4. MATTER ARISING

Item 13(b) – Visits to Other Airports

The Airport suggested that the Committee might like to visit to Jersey Airport which is now served by British European and by VLM in the summer months. The Committee agreed and the Airport undertook to contact Jersey Airport see if the necessary arrangements could be made.

5. AIRPORT STATISTICS

The Committee noted the strong upward trend both in Air Transport Movements and the number of passengers. (See also the Airport Director's report)

6. AIRPORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A note of Alan Medlock's report to the Committee is attached to these minutes.

7. AIRPORT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) West End Improvements

The Committee noted that the Council had approved planning permission for these improvements on 14th February 2001 subject to an agreement under section.106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to secure a contribution from the Airport towards the cost of landscaping improvements in the area.

(b) Apron Extension, New Runway Link and Runway Holding Point

The Council now hoped to consider these proposals at the May meeting of its Planning Committee. Meanwhile discussions about the application were in progress

8. STANDING ITEM ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The Report was tabled and noted - a copy is attached to these minutes.

Concerning the theft of noise monitoring equipment, the Airport proposed now to move the monitoring point to another more secure location. The arrangements for this would take a little time and meanwhile it was proposed to restore the present site using older and less valuable equipment.

In response to a question Rob Grafton said that the loss of one of a "gateway" pair of monitors made it impossible properly to monitor noise in that direction. The monitoring of track-keeping was not, however, affected. It was proposed in future to hold spare equipment in stock so that noise monitoring could be resumed with a minimum of delay.

Robin Whitehouse said that in the circumstances the Council would not want the Airport to instal the newer more expensive equipment at the original site. Rob Grafton said he hoped it would not take very long to establish the new site.

Cllr Pat Holland drew attention to the need to keep the Council informed of movements by travellers in the area.

9. SUMMER 2000 57LEQ NOISE CONTOUR

Rob Grafton said that the Summer 2000 57 Leq Contour had now been plotted on up-to-date OS mapping and a copy had been sent to the Council. A copy of the map is

attached to these minutes and a copy will shortly be posted on the Committee's web site.

10. SOUND INSULATION PROGRAMME

A progress report was tabled and noted by the Committee – a copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

11. FUTURE OF AVIATION – GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION DOCUMENT ON AIR TRANSPORT POLICY

The Committee agreed that the Secretary should respond to the Department as follows:

- (a) The Government's plans to establish a national Aviation Policy should be welcomed not least as a framework within which proposals for development, including major infrastructure projects, could be more easily judged.
- (b) That capacity at London's major Airports (Heathrow and Gatwick) is already constrained and this needs to be addressed if choice and competition is not to be compromised.
- (c) That if the benefits presently flowing to the UK from its position as a key European hub are not to be lost or diminished any measures to secure a balanced and sustainable industry must be taken in an agreed European framework.
- (d) The planning process must be simplified to avoid long and expensive inquiries such as that into the proposed Terminal 5 at Heathrow. In this connection the Committee was mindful of its proposals some years ago for a switch of emphasis towards an inquisitorial approach at inquiries in place of the present adversarial system which had not served the country well.
- (d) If taxation is to be used as a means to suppress demand, and thus the need for capacity, care must be taken to ensure this does not have an adverse impact on the ability of the industry to engage in research and innovation in addressing the environmental issues facing the industry. The proceeds from any such taxation should be earmarked for such research and innovation.

12. SAFEGUARDING OF AERODROMES – GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

The proposal was that planning applications for developments which might affect the operation of an Airport – for example because of the height of structures – should now be referred for advice to that Airport rather than to the Civil Aviation Authority.

London City Airport had been doing this on a trial basis for some time. It had meant a good deal of additional work and expense with the potential for applications from as many as 14 different planning authorities. In spite of this it was the general feeling that such applications are best handled locally by staff with local knowledge and experience and the Secretary was asked to inform the Department accordingly.

13. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP – AREA TEAMS

The section 106 Agreement provided for the representation of the local communities as follows:

- four representatives from the local community elected (one each) by the four Area Teams of the Royal Docks Consultative Group (or any similar consultation machinery which may in the future replace it)
- four representatives of tenants and residents associations in each of North Woolwich, Silvertown, West Silvertown and Cyprus (one from each area)

Any change to these arrangements required the agreement of both the Airport and the LBN as the parties to the s.106 Agreement.

With the commissioning south of the A13 of three community forums - for *North Woolwich and Silvertown* (including West Silvertown), for *Custom House and Canning Town* and for *Beckton* - the Area Teams had ceased to function and it was necessary now to propose alternative arrangements.

It seemed sensible for the future to base the nomination of Consultative Committee members on the new community forums inviting them to nominate one member each with effect from the new committee year 2001/02 starting after the meeting of the Committee in July.

This left the West Silvertown Village Community Foundation (WSVCF) which had been invited to send a member when the West Silvertown Area team had ceased to function some time ago. It was felt that residents in Britannia Village had a direct local interest in the work of the Consultative Committee and that it was important that they should continue to be represented in addition to the representative of the Community Forum and any representative of tenants and residents association in West Silvertown which might be nominated (although there was no such representative at present). Apart from the organisations prescribed by the s.106 Agreement the Airport could, with the approval of the Consultative Committee, nominate other bodies to be represented and this might be an appropriate way to secure WSVCF representation for the future. In this way the number of representatives of the local communities would be maintained at the present level.

The Secretary was asked to discuss these ideas with the Airport and the Council and report back at the next meeting.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Exploratory Drilling in King George V Dock

With consent Mike Nagel of the Royal Docks Waterski Club addressed the Committee. The Club had been in business since 1986 offering waterskiing facilities to the general public using the waters in the King George V Dock to the south of the Airport's runway.

On 8th March a contractor of the Airport, pursuant to a licence granted by RODMA, had placed a drilling rig at the western end of the KGV Dock in a water area used by the Club. The rig is being used for exploratory drilling works in connection with the proposed extension of the Airport's apron.

Mr Nagel said the Club had not been given any advance warning of this as had been agreed and there had been no consultation as to how the Club was to access its normal operating area. There had since been alleged damage to the Club's equipment in the dock and there had been other problems which in the Club's view had compromised its ability to carry out its normal business at an important time. Contacts with the Airport and their consulting engineers to deal with the issues arising had not been satisfactory from the Club's point of view with the Airport

taking the stance that the Club would need to resolve the matter through other appropriate parties.

The Airport are currently seeking planning permission to extend their aircraft holding areas out over the waters of the Dock. If the application were to be successful it would result in a great deal of work taking place on the water. This would require full consultation and collaboration with other users of the waters and it was his view that action should be taken now to ensure that this is properly secured

The Committee noted that the responsible bodies were addressing the issues in relation to the drilling rig and it was to be hoped that there would be a satisfactory outcome. Meanwhile the Secretary was asked to write to the Airport and to RODMA to inform them of the concerns which had been expressed in relation to future works.

(b) Fares Offers – Monthly Information Sheet

Alan Medlock tabled the latest information sheet and it was agreed that this should be circulated with the minutes (a copy is attached). The Committee asked if this sheet could be sent to members on a regular basis - perhaps by including them with the press releases which are routinely sent to members.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 4th July 2001 at 1900 hours at City Aviation House, London City Airport.

1. Statistics

In the first quarter of 2001, the airport handled 388,026 passengers up 13% on the same period last year. Aircraft movements were up 11% to 13,646.

2. Routes

Lufthansa have introduced services to Berlin, for Summer 2001, operating 3 times per day with a BAe RJ aircraft. Lufthansa have also extended the mid-day Munster service to Nuremberg.

VLM have added to extra services to Rotterdam, and are now operating 7 flights each week day. VLM have also restarted their summer service to Jersey, offering 5 return flights per week.

British European have also added additional weekday services to Jersey and the Isle of Man.

Overall, weekly flight to Jersey have increased from 23 to 34.

Aer Lingus plan to increase their services to Dublin to 6 per day from June.

3. Airport Facilities

The second phase of the new Arrivals area has been completed, providing new offices for Immigration and Special branch, as well as a much larger area for presentation of passengers to Immigration.

Nuance Global Traders and Hughes & Hughes booksellers have opened new facilities in the Departure Lounge. An internet café is currently being installed in Bewleys coffee shop.

4. Other

Our planning application to tidy up the western end of the airfield, including the realignment of the footpath, the construction of an administration building and the relocation of the security gate, has been approved by Newham Council. Work is expected to start next month, with a target completion date of 01 December 2001.

On 23rd March, a passenger travelling on an Air France flight made a remark to airline staff suggesting that there may be a bomb on board the aircraft. Flight operations were immediately suspended as passengers were evacuated from the aircraft, and from aircraft parked on adjacent stands. Fire, Police and Ambulance services were rapidly in attendance. After questioning by the police, the passenger, managing director of a major American bank, was arrested. He appeared before magistrates the following Monday, and was bailed for £20,000 to return to court early in May.

Alan Medlock
Operations Director
4th April 2001

MINUTE 8
London City Airport Consultative Committee
Environmental Issues – January/March 2001

A total of 4 complaints relating to environmental issues were received during the period detailed above. A summary is detailed below:

- All 4 of the complaints relate directly to aircraft noise and/or flight paths, of these 4 complaints, 3 came from the same complainant.
- No related complaints were received in the month of February

1. DATE RECEIVED: 5.1.01
TIME OCCURRED: Various DATE OCCURRED: Various
AREA: Canning Town, E16
COMPLAINT: Aircraft noise and flight path
RESPONSE: Telephone call
2. DATE RECEIVED: 18.1.01
TIME OCCURRED: Various DATE OCCURRED: Various
AREA: Canning Town, E16
COMPLAINT: Aircraft noise and flightpath
RESPONSE: Telephone call
3. DATE RECEIVED: 30.1.01
TIME OCCURRED: Various DATE OCCURRED: Various
AREA: Custom House, E16
COMPLAINT: Aircraft noise
RESPONSE: Telephone call
4. DATE RECEIVED: 9.3.01
TIME OCCURRED: 19.15 DATE OCCURRED: 9.3.01
AREA: Canning Town, E16
COMPLAINT: Aircraft noise & flightpath
RESPONSE: Telephone call – dealt with by Operations

NOISE AND FLIGHT TRACK KEEPING SYSTEM (NTK) UPDATE

The bespoke report writing module is now reported as complete by the manufacturer however cannot be adequately tested since Noise Monitoring Terminal 1 (sited adjacent Excel, Royal Victoria Dock) was found to be missing/believed stolen.

New equipment has been ordered and the incident fully reported to the Police and the local authority who are fully aware of the implications of the NMT being out of service and have requested from the airport a timetable programme to re-install the equipment. It is hoped that as NMT 1 was replaced with brand new equipment in December 2000, that the old equipment can be used temporarily, and the manufacturer have been instructed to that investigate this route.

Rob Grafton
Environment & Planning Manager

The airport has recently extended the contract for Granville Noise Insulators to run for another year. They have now completed surveys and work on all Original scheme properties and about 95% of the Part 1's. They are about 50% complete on Part 2 and 25 – 30% on Part 3.

They are concentrating on closing gaps in groups of properties where they had problems with access as well as targeting the properties closest to the airport boundary that may receive the broader noise exposure. They are still finding that aside from the fitting of ventilators, the bulk of the work is grant surveys as most properties already have secondary or double glazing fitted.

This in turn, means that Banks Wood, the scheme administrators, have a heavy burden of paperwork to process, although as soon as grant payment assessments are passed from them to the Airport they are dealt with. This just means that it may take a few weeks between the contractor visiting for the survey and a grant cheque being received.

We once again have enjoyed very good co-operation from LB Newham in visits and resolving access problems or on the administration.

Jonathan Smith
Project Manager