

London City Airport Consultative Committee



c/o London Docklands Development Corporation
Great Eastern Enterprise
Millharbour
LONDON E14 9TJ

Tel: 071 515 3000

MINUTE of the meeting of the London City Airport Consultative Committee held on Wednesday 9th May in the Boardroom at London City Airport.

Present:

John Adshead
Stuart Innes
William T Charnock
Bruce Unsted
Robert Hardless
Tony Auld
Carlo Englebert
Martin Greenham
Jeff Mendham
P Clarke
David Senior
Dru Vesty
Robert Simpson
Bill Dunlop
Dave Cooper

Noel Edwards

Chair
Honorary Secretary
London City Airport
London City Airport
Brymon Airways
Brymon Airways
City Airport - Flexair
London City Airways
PLA
PLA
LCCI
LDDC - RODAT
LEN
Andrew Tenants Association
Thameside Tenants and Residents
Association
Beckton Residents Association

In Attendance:

John Johnson
Sharon O'Callaghan
D C Singleton

LDDC (RODAT)
Docklands Consultative Committee
Newham Recorder

1. Apologies:

Lewis Moss
Brian Axon-Boyes
Cllr. Stephen Timms
Cllr. Julie Garfield
Andy Todd

LDDC
ABTA
LEN
LEN
Brymon Airways

2. The MINUTES of the meetings held on:

(a) Wednesday, 7th March 1990; and

(b) Monday, 19th March 1990

were approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING

(a) London Planning Advisory Committee - Report on Airport Planning Application

It was agreed to discuss this with item 5 (b) later in the Agenda.

(b) Thomas Cook Group Ltd - Redundant City Airways Staff:

The Honorary Secretary reported that in accordance with the undertaking which Brian Axon-Boyes had given at the meeting on 7th March, Thomas Cook had written to their personnel staff concerning those made redundant by London City Airways. Martin Greenham (London City Airways) said that as far as he was aware no member of staff made redundant was now still unemployed. Although exact numbers were not yet available, he estimated that 40/45 jobs had been lost.

4. AIRPORT DIRECTORS REPORT

The Amsterdam services withdrawn by London City Airways had been taken over by Brymon Airways.

The first four months of 1990 showed a 40% increase in passenger numbers compared with the same period for 1989; the 1989 period had been 60% up on 1988.

Access problems persisted, particularly in relation to the A13. The Department of Transport had informed the Director that no improvements in traffic flow on the A13 could be expected for at least 18 months. Following the completion of the present works on the Britannia Bridge in Tower Hamlets it was planned to commence the remodelling of the A13 junction with West India Dock Road beginning with service diversions. The delay in the opening of the new Bascule Bridge on the A117 (Woolwich Manor Way) east of the Airport had also caused access problems and the BR North London Line continued to operate erratically. On a positive note the Riverbus continued to provide a good service.

Dave Cooper expressed his concern over a recent "Thames Report" programme which he felt had presented the Airport in an unfair and unfavourable light. The Airport Director agreed. He had written to the programme's editor on the matter.

The Honorary Secretary informed the Committee that he had been contacted by London Weekend Television regarding a proposed 25 minute documentary on the Airport.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

(a) Community Representation:

The Honorary Secretary reminded the Committee of its previous discussions concerning the method by which the representatives of the local communities are chosen. John Johnson outlined the current structure of the Royal Docks Consultative Group indicating how the local tenants and residents associations participated within the four local Area Teams which had now been established within the Structure and were operating in the representative capacity envisaged for them.

Bill Dunlop expressed concern that changes in the existing nomination arrangements might mean that those communities closest to the Airport would be less well represented. The Andrews Street and Thameside Tenants and Residents Associations represented those living closest to the Airport and should continue to fill the two seats allocated to those living south of the Airport. Dave Cooper shared this point of view.

The Honorary Secretary expressed his concern over the complexity of the present arrangements for the nomination of the representative of the communities to the north of the Airport. The new consultative structure seemed well placed to provide this representative.

It was agreed that the Andrew Street and Thameside Tenants and Residents Associations should continue for the time being directly to nominate two members of the Consultative Committee and that Newham Docklands Forum should likewise for the time being continue to nominate one representative. It was however agreed that the Area Teams representing the communities to the north of the Airport should be consulted to ascertain their views regarding the representation of these communities on the Consultative Committee.

[Action SWI/JJ]

(b) London Planning Advisory Committee:

The Honorary Secretary reported that the recommendations of the officers of the London Planning Advisory Committee on the Airport planning application had not been accepted by the members of LPAC who, therefore, opposed the further development of the Airport.

The LPAC had requested that the Consultative Committee should take up a formal stance on their application for membership. The Honorary Secretary reminded the Committee of their earlier discussions of this application. Concerns had then been expressed about the further enlargement of the size of the Committee and it had been noted that the representation of planning interests via the London Boroughs of Greenwich and Newham (both represented on LPAC) and the LDDC seemed to be adequate. The Airport Director expressed reservations about allowing membership of the Consultative Committee to an organisation which seemed to be opposed to the Airport's interests. This view was shared by other members of the Committee.

After discussion it was agreed that the LPAC's application for membership be rejected and that LPAC be informed accordingly.

[Action SWI]

6. AIRPORT PLANNING APPLICATION:

- (a) Planning Inquiry: The Committee discussed whether or not it would be appropriate for the ACC to be represented at the Public Inquiry. The representatives of the LDDC and LEN expressed the view that they could not support the ACC being represented at the Inquiry, particularly as both authorities had still to reach a final view on the case which each authority would put to the Inquiry. David Cooper said there were mixed feelings locally about the expansion of the Airport and on this issue it would need to be understood that he was speaking as an individual.

After discussion it was agreed that the Committee should make written representations. The Honorary Secretary would prepare a draft for discussion at the next meeting of the Committee on the 11th July. By that time the stance taken up by the LDDC and the LEN would be known and this could be reflected in the submission.

[Action SWI]

- (b) Environmental Statement: The Honorary Secretary said that the Environmental Impact Assessment prepared in connection with the planning application would be available for inspection by members after the meeting. Bill Charnock said that this report could be seen at the Airport at any reasonable time - those interested should ask at the Airport Information Desk.

7. ASSOCIATION OF LONDON AUTHORITIES - TRANSPORT STRATEGY

The Committee agreed not to make a response to this report.

8. COMPLAINT BY MR MENDONCA

The Committee discussed the issues arising from the letter received from Mr Mendonca.

The LDDC (John Johnson) explained that the LDDC had also heard from Mr Mendonca and that the issues raised had also been discussed at a recent meeting of the North Woolwich and Silvertown Area Team. The original planning consent for the Airport had been examined and it had been found that there were no outstanding landscaping or other environmental works for which the Airport is responsible. Some of the land referred to by Mr Mendonca, and the damaged fence, were in the ownership of the East London Housing Association (ELHA). The Airport Director informed the Committee that the Airport had carried out all of the works required by them and would continue to ensure, where it was their responsibility, to maintain in good condition the fencing, landscaping and other environmental works around the Airport.

Following discussion at the NW & S Area Team it had been agreed that the LB Newham, LDDC and ELHA would meet to discuss possible environmental improvements to the area. The Committee welcomed this initiative.

It was agreed that the Honorary Secretary would send a suitable reply to Mr Mendonca reflecting the Committee's discussion.

[Action SWI]

9. ANNUAL LIAISON MEETING OF ACCs - 28TH/29TH JUNE 1990.

The Honorary Secretary said that the arrangements for the Annual Liaison meeting this year included an optional tour of the Docklands and LCY on 28th June. Members were invited to join this group for a buffet lunch at the Airport. Those wishing to attend should advise the Honorary Secretary.

[Action: ALL]

10. VISIT TO LONDON AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTRE (LATCC) - MONDAY 4TH JUNE 1990.

Those wishing to make this visit should inform the Honorary Secretary at the end of the meeting. The Honorary Secretary informed the Committee that arrangements could also be made for a Committee visit to Thames Radar at Heathrow. Members expressed interest in such a visit.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) Dave Cooper raised three issues:

- (i) Complaints from local residents concerning noise from the Catering Unit in the early hours of the morning.
- (ii) Problems of abandoned luggage trolleys in Parker Street and at Silvertown Station.
- (iii) A local resident at Muir Street was concerned at noise levels which it was felt might be especially severe in that locality. Dave Cooper asked whether arrangements could be made for special noise monitoring to check whether or not this area was more sensitive to airport noise than other areas.

The Airport Director undertook to investigate and respond to these issues. The trolleys presented a problem for all airports in that some passengers behaved irresponsibly in abandoning them. It was hoped that the provision of a trolley parking bay at the newly constructed Silvertown station would assist in alleviating the problem. It was agreed that the Honorary Secretary would write to British Rail to ascertain a date for the commencement of work on the station.

[Action WTC and SWI]

- (b) The Committee were informed that Flexair had experimented with a new route to Zealand. A decision would be taken soon on whether to introduce this service on a regular basis.
- (c) Telethon Docklands Challenge - Brymon Airways would be supporting the Telethon fundraising event. Brymon had also arranged with LBN Social Services to provide specially discounted travel to Amsterdam for a party of children in their care.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 11th July at 7.00 pm in the Board Room at London City Airport. The meeting would be preceded by a talk by John Cox, Chairman of the Air Transport Users Committee.

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