

EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT

INDEPENDENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

GENERAL MEETING

UNAPPROVED Minutes of the Meeting
held at DHL Offices, East Midlands Airport on
Friday 24 June 2011

Present:

Independent Chairman

Mr B Whyman MBE, Ch, JP

Users:

Consumers Association

Dr A Manhire

DHL

Mr P Hewett

Derbyshire & Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce

Ms E Whitehead

Local Authorities:

Broxtowe Borough Council

Councillor A Cooper

Erewash Borough Council

Councillor R Parkinson

Leicestershire County Council

Councillor Mrs L Pendleton

North West Leicestershire District Council

Councillor D Stevenson

Rushcliffe Borough Council

Councillor Mrs M Males

Local Groups:

CPRE Leicestershire

Mr G Stocks

CPRE Derbyshire

Ms C Barker

CPRE Nottinghamshire and Rushcliffe

Mrs B Walker

DEMAND

Mr S Charlish

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

Councillor S Jackson

Kings Newton Residents' Association

Mr S Leech

Melbourne Civic Society

Dr P Grimley

PAIN - People Against Intrusive Noise

Mrs P Beddoe

SAVE – Save Aston Village Environment

Mr J Gidlow

WINGS

Mr I Robertson

East Midlands Airport:

Director of Sustainability

Mr N Robinson

Director of Planning and Development

Mr J Froggatt

Managing Director

Mr B Miller

Minute Secretary

Mrs A Lamin

11/10 **APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, including re-elected and new councillors. Apologies were received from Mr R Pryce, Mr R Young, Cllr S Spencer, Cllr L Sykes, Cllr J Harrison and Cllr M Barrett.

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr Stevenson in relation to NW Leicestershire District Council planning applications and Cllr Pendleton in relation to SIGS.

11/11 **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 18 MARCH 2011:**

a.

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2011 were accepted as a true record subject to an *addition* to paragraph 11/08 c - Planning Applications 'EMA will circulate a *summary* of the planning conditions relating to the runway extension to ICC members, *and the conditions will be outlined at the next MENT meeting.*'

ACTION: EMA

b. **Matters arising:**

(i) **11/03 b:** EMA will circulate details of **land holdings** to ICC members.

ACTION: EMA

(ii) **11/03 e: Leicestershire Constabulary - Project Griffin**

EMA will invite Leicestershire Constabulary to make a presentation to the ICC meeting in November.

ACTION: EMA

(iii) **11/04 Customer First**

A meeting has been arranged between EMA and East Midlands Trains regarding display of flight departure information at Nottingham and Leicester.

(iv) **11/06 Passenger Representation on the ICC**

EMA will pursue contact with the AOC, Derbyshire Association for the Blind and ABTA regarding representation on the ICC.

ACTION: EMA

EMA advised that revised guidelines for ICCs are now anticipated in November and the organisation membership of ICC will be reviewed when the guidelines are received.

A member said he understood this is not a priority for the government and said nothing is being achieved by deferring the review until guidelines are received and reiterated that there are 35 ICC members representing councils and organisations but only one member for passenger representation. It was agreed that the organisation membership of the ICC will be reviewed at the November meeting.

ACTION: EMA

(v) The Chairman reminded members that the Local Authority ICC members should review nominations for the position of Vice Chairman for the November ICC meeting. EMA will write to all ICC members outlining this requirement.

ACTION: EMA

(vi) **11/08 a. Airport Statistics**

EMA confirmed that statistical information will be available on the website by the end of the summer and that the Webtrak system is being upgraded.

ACTION: EMA

11/08 c. Planning applications

Details of planning applications are available on the website. It was agreed that summary details of the planning conditions relating to the runway extension will be circulated to ICC members and the conditions will be outlined at the next MENT meeting.

ACTION: EMA

11/12 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

- a. The Chairman confirmed the resignation, due to ill health, of Cllr John Pike after 29 years of ICC membership. Following this meeting, a presentation was made to John Pike and thanks and appreciation were expressed to John for his enthusiasm and commitment to both the ICC and the Community Fund.

b. **Sub committee attendance:**

Following the TEP sub committee meeting held in May, as requested, the Chairman raised the concerns expressed by members at low attendance at some meetings. A member expressed disappointment that the local authority representatives do not attend although this was disputed by a local authority representative. The Chairman confirmed that the November ICC meeting will include nominations and elections to sub committees. A member said there is a mechanism for substitutes to attend meetings and members should organise attendance at the meetings as necessary.

c. **Community Fund Awards:**

The Chairman advised that at the May MENT meeting, a member had reported on the disappointment of Kegworth Parish Council that two requests for funding had been rejected. The member said that Parish Councils work for the community and ask for very little. In addition, Kegworth is an area most affected by airport operations. A proposal was put forward to the ICC from MENT that an ICC sub group comprising appropriate representatives, be set up to review the Community Fund guidelines, criteria and area of eligibility. The Chairman said it is the responsibility of Community Fund members to arrive at an independent and impartial view and to fulfil their obligations according to the current guidelines.

It was confirmed that the funds allocated are mainly an annual donation from EMA together with a reducing income from aircraft fines.

Conflicting views were put forward by members including:

- Area affected by airport operations is more than 30 miles
- Not all parish councils should be eligible, only those that EMA has land on
- Money is spread too widely and those most affected do not benefit
- The area of benefit should be restricted
- Concern that if ICC members as representatives receive money from the airport then there is a need to Declare an Interest
- All or no parish councils should be eligible
- The work of parish councils cannot be detached from that of community groups
- The Community Fund should match the catchment area of EMA which is within one hour's driving time.

Cllr Marie Males, Chairman of the Community Fund, said that over £60k had been distributed to local groups during the past year and the committee reviewed every application impartially and was proud of the work done. Cllr Males endorsed the recommendation for a review of the Community Fund guidelines.

After discussion it was agreed by all present that a sub-group, chaired and facilitated by EMA, be formed to undertake a review of the Community Fund guidelines and criteria. It was agreed that the sub-group membership include:

- EMA Managing Director - Brad Miller (Chairman)
- EMA representatives (2)
- Community Fund Committee members (3 + one vacancy)
- Dr A Manhire - Consumers' Association
- Mr P Hewett - DHL Aviation Ltd (nominated by Cllr D Stevenson)
- Cllr L Pendleton - Leicestershire County Council (nominated by Cllr D Stevenson)

ICC members are invited to volunteer to join this group as appropriate.

EMA will summarise the options and proposals for the Community Fund and provide details of how many Parish Councils are in the current eligible area. The summary will include a brief history of the Fund, the funding received and the changes made to the original fund. Recommendations of the sub-group will be reported to the November ICC meeting.

ACTION: EMA

- d. The Chairman advised that minutes of the Annual ACC meeting held in Aberdeen in June will be circulated to ICC members when they are available. 22 ICC's were represented.

11/13 **PLANS AND CONSULTATIONS:**

Details were outlined as circulated.

- a. The consultation by the DfT on a Scoping Document ON developing a sustainable framework for UK aviation is ongoing with a closing date of 30 September 2011. Details can be found on: www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/dft-2011-09
- b. The consultation on Air Passenger Duty closed on 17 June 2011, consultation on passenger representation ends on 30 June 2011. As agreed by members of the East Midlands ICC, individual groups are advised to respond independently.
- c. The new guidelines for Consultative Committees are now anticipated at the end of November.
- d. The EMA Draft Noise Action Plan has been formally adopted by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the approved Noise Action Plan has been placed on the Airport's website.

A member said he was extremely disappointed by the approval of the Noise Action Plan, which is unrealistic as it is based on the Master Plan which is now out of date. The member feels that the NAP does not meet legal requirements eg does not publish areas of noise contours as recommended by Defra, which enables comparisons year on year. EMA is denying the opportunity for local groups to make comparisons and to make EMA accountable. The NAP says the current noise impact of EMA is acceptable and this is not true. The ICC has reported on many occasions the noise impact is not acceptable.

EMA said that the Secretary of State has accepted that EMA has met the legal requirements. Contour documents are included and EMA has been publishing this information voluntarily for several years. The NAP confirms that the measures regarding

noise are acceptable.

EMA will liaise with the member concerned outside this meeting to review the information in the NAP.

ACTION: EMA

A member said the term 'acceptable noise' is queried as acceptable to whom. People have learned to accept unacceptable noise.

EMA confirmed that a review of the Master Plan is now scheduled for March 2013 and confirmed that the existing Master Plan will continue until a new framework is in place.

- e. In response to a member query, EMA confirmed that the Airport is reviewing operational needs and undertaking feasibility studies to determine action regarding the approved runway extension. EMA will take into account maintenance required on the existing runway over the next 4/5 years.

A member requested and it was agreed that the Runway Extension will be included as a standard item on future Airport reports. EMA will report progress to the next ICC meeting.

ACTION: EMA

11/14 **FORTHCOMING ELECTION TO SUB COMMITTEES:**

The process and timetable was outlined as circulated. Members are advised that elections for the sub-committees will be held at the next ICC meeting on 11 November 2011. Attendance and the ability to organise substitute representatives was emphasised.

The need for Local Authority groups to submit nominations for the position of ICC Vice Chairman to the November meeting was also emphasised.

ACTION: ALL

11/15 **AIRPORT REPORT:**

a. **Statistics**

The information circulated was reviewed. It was agreed that future statistics would be presented in a revised graph format as demonstrated on page 6 of the information circulated.

ACTION: EMA

b. **Community Relations:**

The information circulated was reviewed. A member thanked EMA for attending the East Leake outreach group which had been appreciated.

A member outlined a recent positive experience of a disabled passenger and EMA will relay this to OCS.

A member reported on long queues for security but accepted security is necessary. To be told on the day that advance priority booking is recommended is not particularly helpful. A litter problem apparent on arrival was also highlighted.

EMA said they are working continually to improve the security queue issues and clearance of litter. Both problems are taken very seriously.

A member said he was not happy with the EMA charge of £1 for plastic bags. EMA said

the charge is for two bags and confirmed that other airports also charge. The Consumer Association representative highlighted the recent Which? report which details extra charges made by airports. Membership of Which? enables comments and opinions to be recorded.

c. **Planning applications:**

Details of planning applications as at 24 June 2011 were tabled and reviewed. It was confirmed that the Local Planning Authority had rejected the application for a Certificate of Lawful or Permitted Use or Development for petrol station development for the sliver of land between the M1 and A453.

d. **Environment report:**

The information circulated was reviewed. A member suggested Quorn for noise monitoring.

EMA advised that the two wind turbines in operation will generate 5% of airport electricity. The planning approval received is for four turbines.

Plans to install a large solar (PV) array have been paused for the foreseeable future due to the Government's recent decision to reduce the level of support through the 'Feed-in Tariff'.

A member acknowledged the low number of 55 noise complaints received but said that this is due to complaints fatigue. EMA advised that the majority of complaints are received by email or through the website. A member queried how complaints can be made by those people not on-line. EMA will confirm that a telephone number for complaints is now published in local phone directories.

ACTION: EMA

A member said that the MENT meeting had reviewed information provided on Engine Testing at night and this is still unacceptable. EMA outlined the need to balance operational requirements.

In response to a member query on Webtrak, EMA advised that the upgraded system now provides the facility to overlay radar tracks for aircraft. High resolution mapping is used and there is a zoom facility on the system.

11/16 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

**Friday 11 November 2011
10.00am at DHL Offices, EMA**

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