

SOUTHAMPTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEE

Friday, 8 June 2018 (2:00 pm – 3:55 pm)

Godfrey Olson (Chairman)
Councillor David Airey (Vice-Chair)
Richard Ward (Hon Secretary)

Members Present:

Councillor Janice Asman	West End Parish Council
Councillor Sharon Mintoff	Southampton City Council
Councillor Spiros Vassiliou	Southampton City Council
Councillor Ray Dean	Eastleigh Borough Council
Councillor J S Neal	Test Valley Borough Council
Councillor Laurence Ruffell	Winchester City Council
Neil Garwood	Southampton Airport
Mr G Wilkinson	Southampton Action for Access

Deputies Present:

Councillor Andy Moore	Bishopstoke Parish Council
Councillor Geoff Harris	Bishopstoke Parish Council

In Attendance:

Sue Owens	Eastleigh Borough Council
Hayley Bull	Cross Country Trains
Councillor L Fielker	Southampton City Council

Apologies:

Councillor S Barnes-Andrews	Southampton City Council
Councillor Paul Bicknell	Eastleigh Borough Council
Councillor Jan Warwick	Winchester City Council
Councillor Floss Mitchell	Hampshire County Council
Councillor Rob Humby	Hampshire County Council
Diane Sebon	Townhill Park Residents Association
Mims Davies MP	Eastleigh Parliamentary Constituency
Royston Smith MP	Southampton Itchen

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR 2018/19

Godfrey Olson was elected as Chair for 2018/19.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR 2018/19

Councillor David Airey was elected as Vice Chair for 2018/19.

3. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY SECRETARY 2018/19

Richard Ward was elected as an Honorary Secretary to the Chair for 2018/19.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2018 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

5. AIRPORT MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Managing Director of Southampton Airport International Limited, Neil Garwood, delivered his report which had been circulated with the agenda.

He reported on passenger numbers and noted that there was an error in the figures with regards to the Reduction of Passengers and the report should read that there had been a 2.7% decline, not a 20% decline.

2018 was an exciting year for the airport with new routes to Menorca with TUI and Skiathos with Fly LoLo. Easyjet's Geneva flights would be re-introduced from December 2018 due to demand from ski passengers. In addition, specialist ski companies, Esprit Ski and Ski Total, would expand their Chambery flight programme from Southampton Airport in Winter 2018. Following a successful season this year, Esprit Ski and Ski Total would upgrade the aircraft to a larger 118 seat Embraer jet aircraft to accommodate higher numbers of passengers. BMI had stopped the Southampton to Munich route and Flybe would be reducing the amount of planes and some of their large jets would be removed by 2020.

Southampton Airport was delighted to announce the launch of its brand new training centre, EchoFour. EchoFour gave businesses from across the South the chance to receive the highest standard of training at a unique location. Each course was instructed by serving firefighters, which created an environment whereby 'professional firefighters trained professional people'.

An innovative drone, Robird®, had been trialled at Southampton Airport in partnership with NATS and the developers, Clear Flight Solutions. Although it looked just like a falcon to the casual observer, it was actually an ornithopter – a type of drone designed and flown to mimic the actions of a bird of prey and used to deter real birds from airport. The successful trial meant that similar robot bird systems could take flight at other airports in the future.

New electric car charging points had been in use for just over a month at the airport and there had already been a positive environmental impact. The free charging bays had saved 205KW in their first five weeks of operation – equivalent to saving 143 kilograms of carbon dioxide emissions from the local atmosphere. Local drivers were encouraged to drop by, park in an available bay and recharge their vehicles.

Southampton Airport had warmly welcomed Baton Relay runners as part of the Royal Air Force's Centenary celebrations. The airport had a great history

with Royal Air Force and was happy to support them in their centenary celebrations. Southampton Airport was where the first flight of Spitfire had taken place back in 1936 and that history continued with modern aircrafts flying from the airport to various destinations. The airport was proud to recognise the commitment of the RAF and the work they did together.

On 24 June, the annual Runway run had taken place, with around 700 runners taking part to raise money for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance (HIOWAA). Southampton Airport was the only commercial airport in the UK that opened up its runway to the members of the public for this type of event and with 700 runners had broken yet another record of hosting the biggest run of its kind in the UK to date. Over £20,000 had been raised from the Runway Run, with the final number still being calculated.

6. NOISE ACTION PLAN

Amy Le Vieux, Health and Safety Officer, reported that there had been a slight increase in noise complaints from January to April 2018; two complaints from Bitterne Park, three complaints from Townhill Park and one complaint from Freemantle. Complaints received were still being investigated in liaison with various airlines and Police, as one was the police helicopter.

The Noise Action Plan was designed to aid the airport to minimise impact of air traffic noise on the neighbourhood area. The plan would be implemented on 31 August and DEFRA had already approved the plan.

7. MASTERPLAN

Neil Garwood, Managing Director, advised that they were not in a position to be able to report on the Masterplan as it was still with the share-holders.

He proposed that if this was ready prior to the next arranged meeting of the Committee, then they would call an additional meeting.

8. REPORT ON PASSENGERS WITH RESTRICTED MOBILITY

Hazel Screech, Customer Experience Manager, reported on passengers with restricted mobility and emphasised the airport's commitment to provide the best service for all their passengers including the ones that require special assistance.

Southampton Airport had worked extremely hard to improve its services for passengers travelling with hidden disabilities and was very pleased that they had received recognition from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) for examples of best practice within their recent report. Southampton Airport was one of the four UK airports that fulfilled all of the key requirements and recommendations of CAP1411 - guidance provided by the CAA in supporting people with hidden disabilities. In particular, the CAA praised Southampton Airport for providing a pre-travel advice and tips information booklet which included a detailed section on travelling with hidden disabilities. This information booklet was developed in partnership with various organisations to help guide passengers through the process of travelling to and from Southampton Airport.

The CAA had recommended that other UK airports follow Southampton's initiative of using their special assistance "helping hands" symbol to assist passengers with identifying a quiet route through security and into the departure lounge. Introduced in 2017, the "quiet route" was available for passengers with sensory impairments or sensory processing issues, for whom the terminal environment could sometimes be disorienting and stressful.

Last year, more than 14,800 passengers with physical and hidden disabilities requested assistance whilst travelling through the airport and 89% had pre-booked special services.

Southampton Airport worked in partnership with various organisations in order to improve service provision for passengers, ensure that information was available in accessible formats and enhance training for their employees. The next step was to gain CRA excellences.

9. FEEDBACK FROM ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Councillor Airey reported on the Annual Conference which he had attended this year. A formal report had been written and attached to the minutes.

10. MONITORING OF THE FLYING CONTROLS AGREEMENT

It was noted that there had been no breaches of the Flying Controls Agreement.

11. TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP FEEDBACK

The minutes of the most recent meeting of the Technical Working Group were circulated to members with the Agenda, and were noted at the meeting.

There had been one reported laser strike, however no reported drone activity.

With regard to the airspace, on 2 April 2018 there had been an instance whereby one of the tracked routes had varied slightly onto the runway; the airline involved had been spoken to about this.

New restrictions regarding use of drones near airports and the heights that they were able to fly had recently come into force. There would also be tougher penalties for those who targeted vehicles, including aircrafts, with lasers.

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Friday 12 October at 2pm.

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