

LONDON SOUTHEND AIRPORT

Minutes of meeting No. 86 of the Consultative Committee held on Wednesday, 3 June 2015
at 2pm at Southend Airport

Present: Stuart Greengrass	Chairman
Jon Horne (JH)	Managing Director, LSA
Jason Ivey (JI)	Operations Director, LSA (AOD)
Jo Marchetti (JM)	Community Affairs Co-ordinator, LSA
John Dallaway	Essex Chambers of Commerce
Councillor Ray Howard	Essex County Council
Councillor Vic Leach	Rochford Hundred Association of Parish Councils
Councillor Graham Longley	Southend Borough Council
Councillor Meg Davidson	Southend Borough Council
Councillor Valerie Morgan	Leigh Town Council
Ron Smithson	Flying Clubs
Councillor Mike Steptoe	Rochford District Council
Derry Thorpe	Southend Trades Council
Nora Goodman	Residents of Eastwood & St. Laurence
Kate Willard	Corporate Affairs Director, Stobart Group & Chair, Thames Gateway
Sam Petrie	Airport Development Coordinator, LSA
Emma McDonnell (EM)	Minutes

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from David Osborn, Iain Campbell (Ipeco Holdings), Councillor Joan Mockford, Zhanine Oates (Officer), Councillor Alf Partridge, Councillor Jill Reeves, Les Sawyer (West Leigh Residents Association), George Crowe (Secretary), Councillor Colin Riley, Councillor Tino Callaghan, Councillor Carole Weston, Shaun Scrutton (Officer), Marcus Hotten (Officer), Councillor Lamb.

2. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed all existing and new members to the meeting, including Jon Horne, Managing Director LSA, who would be presenting the Airport Operations Director's report, and Sam Petrie, Airport Development Coordinator, who would be providing an update on Controlled Airspace, Standard Instrument Departures and Standard Terminal Arrival Routes.

Jon Horne provided the meeting with a brief background on his career in aviation.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Further to the election, the following new members of the Committee were acknowledged:

Councillor Carole Weston	Rochford District Council
Councillor Valerie Morgan	Leigh Town Council
Councillor Tino Callaghan	Southend Borough Council
Mr Peter Geraghty (Officer)	Southend Borough Council

Councillor Heather Glynn (Rochford District Council) and Councillor D Norman (Southend Borough Council) are no longer members.

The Chairman advised members that Iain Campbell of IPECO will be retiring from the company at the end of July. Iain had discussed the ACC membership with his MD and despite the committee's Chairman's wishes to the contrary, IPECO has decided not to nominate a replacement.

It was agreed to look for a representative from local airside tenant companies or local business to replace Iain.

3.1 J Marchetti to forward a list of companies to be contacted to the Chairman and E McDonnell. **Actioned – remove from minutes.**

3.2 The Chairman and E McDonnell to draft and send an appropriate invitation letter. **Action SMG/EM 31/07/15**

3.3 It was noted that Councillor Mrs P A Challis, Director of Thames Gateway was no longer in position, and it was agreed that Kate Willard, Chair of Thames Gateway, would be the representative. G Crowe to write to Councillor Challis and thank her for her support. **Actioned – remove from minutes.**

4. AIRPORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Committee reviewed the report presented by Jon Horne, covering the period February to April 2015:

(a) Performance

The report contained the following performance figures:

Total aviation movements	February	March	April	Total
2014/15	2,039	2,213	2,323	6,575
2013/14	1,900	3,052	2,915	7,867
Commercial movements 2014/2015	895	953	912	2,760
Commercial movements 2013/2014	903	1,070	1,133	3,106
Passengers 2014/15	63,317	74,546	74,514	212,377
Passengers 2013/14	72,812	85,024	100,225	258,061

(b) Overview

JH advised that passengers in the current year are expected to be fairly flat in comparison with the prior year largely due to the reduction in easyJet based aircraft from four to three and the withdrawal by Flybe from this market where the airline cancelled its London City and London Southend Routes to the Irish capital.

A significant marketing campaign has delivered excellent performance of the easyJet services. Phase two of this will commence in June and a further marketing campaign to promote the Flybe/Stobart Air services will also take place commencing in June.

Adria Airways, the national carrier of Slovenia, will commence three services per week to Maribor on 1st June - the first link between London and the key Slovenian City of Maribor.

Summer 2015 will see the return of Thomson and First Choice Charter flights to Palma de Majorca.

Route development activities continue apace with attendance at major European and Global route development forums. This work is in addition to the activity of promoting the London Southend Opportunity to individual airlines. Strong interest is being shown from a number of airlines and the airport is now beginning to be recognised as established in the market place.

Councillor Morgan asked whether in addition to popular European tourist destinations, where visitors arrive and stay for the duration of their time away, additional destinations possessing extensive air and rail connections could be considered. JH confirmed that Austria is a good example of such a destination, and with the route to Maribor now available from LSA, which is close to the Austrian border, this provides such an opportunity.

5. PLANNING ISSUES

The AOD's report included information about the following planning issues:

(a) Controlled Airspace

Controlled Airspace came into operation as planned on 2nd April 2015 and it has functioned well to-date. Sam Petrie provided an update, following JH's letter to the Committee of 19th May, a summary of which is below:

- LSA has now commenced the process to introduce Standard Instrument Departures (SIDs) and Standard Terminal Arrival Routes (STARs), to bring the Airport in line with other airports in the UK.
- Major changes to the route structure and airspace management arrangements over the South East of the UK were being developed by NATS in a major airspace project known as the London Area Management Programme (LAMP), therefore, SIDs and STARs had to be introduced at a later date than the controlled airspace.
- Instead, with the agreement of the CAA, as an interim measure, the existing Preferred Departure Routes (PDRs) that had been in place for many years were to remain in place until such time as the LAMP Phase 1a route structure had been finalised and an implementation schedule established.
- NATS have now submitted their proposals to the CAA for their review and a decision is expected later this year. The proposals include STARs for LSA aircraft arriving from the South and East. The STAR from the North will form part of LSA Airspace Change Proposal (ACP).
- The process that will be followed for the implementation of SIDs and the northerly STAR is the same that was followed for the introduction of controlled airspace (CAP 725). The process includes a 12 week public consultation, which is expected to take place in Summer 2015. LSA will produce a comprehensive consultation document, which will be available to download from their website.
- LSA will consult with County, Parish Councils and flying clubs and invite them to respond within a defined period.
- Once the review of responses has taken place, a consultation report covering operational and environmental benefits, will be published and submitted to CAA.
- The CAA has a statutory 16 week period to respond.

- It is possible there may be a reduction in noise complaints with Controlled Airspace as there will be better connectivity, which may be further improved with LAMP and the introduction of SIDs.
- The estimated timescale for implementation of SIDs is summer/winter 2016.
- The Noise Abatement Procedures that form part of the S106 agreement do not change as part of this process.
- LSA is currently working with the MoD to re-sectorise the danger area to provide a more flexible use of airspace in that area.
- In response to Ray Howard's comments regarding consultation with Clacton and Thurrock; Sam Petrie confirmed that Letters of Agreement are in place with all Aerodromes / Airfields within the Control Zone (CTR). Both Clacton and Thurrock sit under the Control Area (CTA) so do not require a Letter of Agreement however LSA would make them aware of the consultation on SIDs and STARs.

5.1 Sam Petrie to attend the next ACC meeting which is likely to be during the consultation period.

PFD
18/11/15

The Chairman and Councillor Howard thanked Sam and complimented her on the eloquent presentation.

(b) New Fire Station

Work has continued to develop the design and finalise the detail associated with the facilities for the new Fire Station. This has now been approved and the location confirmed. The Fire Station will be located at the northern end of the aircraft parking apron between the Control Tower and Taxiway Alpha. The location was chosen as that which provides the best operation fit and enables the fire vehicles to respond quickly to the operational areas of the airfield. Although slightly behind the originally anticipated timetable, the tender process is expected to begin within the next month.

(c) Passenger Terminal

The new Laker's Bar and Restaurant opened in the Departure Lounge on Good Friday 3rd April and has proved a success with passengers. The availability of hot food being a valuable addition to the offer available to passengers using the airport.

(d) Footpath

Works have commenced to provide the footpath diversion and this is expected to be complete by the end of June at which time the old footpath will be closed, with the extension of the Perimeter Fence across the brook.

At the February 2015 meeting, I Campbell reported that, due to security arrangements in place at the gate on Aviation Way, this had resulted in congestion with delivery vehicles queuing to gain access to the Airport, whilst at the same time often blocking the entrance to Ipeco. A road safety concern now exists as safety for pedestrians is compromised, with the likelihood of a vehicle/pedestrian collision.

J Ivey confirmed that the Airport had informed Essex County Council Highways network of the security changes and is working closely with the CAA to resolve the issue of congestion, hopefully within the next month. JI advised that vehicle searching takes time, but the Airport is looking at streamlining this, with 'personnel authorisation' being an option.

The Chairman appreciated that this was a medium/long-term solution, however, the hazardous conditions still existed for pedestrians and a short-term solution was necessary.

Cllr R Howard provided an update following his on-site review after the previous ACC meeting. Cllr Howard confirmed that an ECC officer and elected officials visited the North Side Access point, and viewed the changes. Officers from ECC can confirm that Aviation Way, while located within Rochford District and Essex County Council, is currently a private road and is un-adopted, therefore, Southend Borough Council are currently responsible as they are the land owners, until such time as the road is adopted and then responsibility falls to ECC Highways.

Cllr Howard went on to say that it is important that London Southend Airport liaises with relevant bodies to ensure that in the short term CAA safety issues, highway safety and access to businesses on Aviation Way is maintained.

- 5.2 JH to take responsibility and arrange a separate meeting with Cllr Howard, ECC and Cllr Graham Longley, Southend Borough Council, to progress things urgently.

**JH
URGENT
ACTION**

Jl reiterated to the meeting that if any member had any concerns whatsoever in relation to security, or any other matter, then they could raise this with him at any time.

- (e) Approach lights – runway 24

Further negotiations have taken place with the land owners in an attempt to resolve this ongoing matter. LSA has explored a number of options to try and find a solution that is acceptable to the land owners, whilst providing the operational capability essential for reliable airport operations in poor weather.

No further forward. The process continues to allow the replacement of three old runway approach light masts with three new ones. The replacement of these lamps will improve safety and will reduce the number of occasions on which aircraft need to divert elsewhere in poor weather. Having failed to reach agreement with the landowner after over a year of negotiation, application had been made to the Secretary of State under the Civil Aviation Act to secure consent, and are still awaiting a decision.

6. INWARD INVESTMENT, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Included in the AOD's report was information relating to inward investment, employment and training.

- (a) Inward investment

Interest continues to be shown in a number of possible hangar developments. LSA has attended various European Business Aviation events to promote the opportunities offered at the airport. Discussions with airlines on developing inbound traffic continue.

LSA held its biannual Emergency Exercise in March which was assessed by the Civil Aviation Authority. The exercise was extremely successful and tested the Emergency Plan for LSA and its response, along with that of the emergency services.

(b) Employment and training

The 12 month Customer Service Excellence programme is ongoing.

7. PRESS PACK

The pack of newspaper cuttings relating to the Airport was available and noted.

8. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM, ROCHFORD

Councillor Mike Steptoe confirmed that the Committee for the Joint Area Action Plan (JAAP) had now ceased, and they await for the first application from Southend Borough Council and developers.

9. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Included in the AOD's report was information relating to community relations.

(a) Noise

It was noted that the total number of noise complaints for the Q1 period February, March and April 2015, were 45, compared with 100 for the same Q1 period ending April 2014. Just 12 complaints related to aircraft operating to/from the airport during the agreed night time period; 9 of which related to aircraft that were delayed due to industrial action taken by French ATC. 1 complaint did not relate to Southend Airport operations and 25 of the 45 complaints (56%) were submitted from the same address in Leigh on Sea. The complainants from this address were previously suspended and after a six month period attended a meeting at the airport to discuss their specific concerns.

All of the complaints were investigated and all but 1 of the aircraft concerned were found to have been operating legitimately. 2 complaints related to a scheduled easyJet departure that took off at 06:26 on the 1st March – 4 minutes before the start of the agreed daytime period. This incident was fully investigated and found to be due to an error by the Air Traffic Controller on duty at the time. Whilst flight EZY76YL was ready to depart ahead of schedule it should have been routinely held until 06:30. This is the first and only incident of this nature since the S106 agreement was implemented and measures have been put in place to ensure that all ATC are fully briefed on the S106 conditions and that no further breaches of this nature occur. None of the complaints received related to aircraft that were identified by the airport to have deviated from the noise preferential route (NPR).

(b) Environment

Discussions continue with the Environment Agency regarding the airport's surface water proposals to secure the relevant discharge permit.

- 9.1 Following Councillor Alf Partridge's comment, after discussion it was agreed to wait for the decision from the Environment Agency prior to issuing any Press Release to the local media.

**PFD
TBA**

10. COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 106 AGREEMENT

The Quarterly Section 106 Return for the three-month period February to end April 2015 was reviewed. Two papers were attached to the Return that:

- gave further information about departing aircraft of over 5.7 tonnes that had been identified as not following the Noise Preferential Routes (NPRs) and advised that an infringement notice had been issued in respect of the 1 movement;
- provided more information about the 1 in respect of which infringement notice had been issued.

JM reported that LSA is in the process of implementing Standard Instrument Departures (SIDs) which will have noise abatement procedures built into the design which should reduce breaches of this nature.

11. REVIEW OF DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

JM provided all members with a copy of the Draft Annual Report to take away with them for review. JM advised that as this was the 3rd Annual Report, there were notable changes and comparative data could be provided, plus as employment figures were important to the local community, this element within the Report had been expanded.

To summarise specific points covered when reviewing the Report during the meeting:

- The Report contains less about developments as things have moved forward
- Employment at LSA rising year on year
- New employment offered in Restaurant and Security
- Whilst businesses based in Aviation Way have historically been included in staff data to help guide staff travel initiatives (Airport Surface Access Strategy), Aviation Way travel connectivity will be addressed within the Joint Area Action Plan (JAAP) and the airport will continue to report on staff only located within the airport boundary moving forward
- Air quality remains better than Government guidelines
- 10% of the new passenger terminal's energy is sourced from renewables, which has been achieved through solar photovoltaic (PV) panels on the terminal roof. 496 solar panels, which are of non-reflective glass, supply the terminal's expanded range of shops, cafes and restaurants with clean solar electricity for decades to come.

11.1 Any comments on the draft Report are to be returned to JM by 17 June 2015. **ALL
17/06/15**

12. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF MEETING – 19 NOVEMBER 2014

Compliance with Section 106 Agreement

12.1 JM reported that that processes in place in relation to managing flights which departed outside the Noise Preferential Routes (NPRs) was working well, ie infringement notices issued for 1st and 2nd offences, with a £500 fine for a 3rd offence. JM also confirmed that no complaints had been raised as a result of the most recent non-compliances.

Following discussion the Committee agreed that the current system was working adequately and that the process outlined above should be reviewed again in a year's time. **Transfer to Points Forward Diary February 2016.**

**PFD
Feb
2016**

13. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF MEETING – 25 FEBRUARY 2015

Employment and training

13.1 Zhanine Oates reported that ECC works with Stansted Airport and makes sure that the airport is linking with local initiative as much as possible – one of these being Essex Employment and Skills Board. This is a representative group of large employers, SMEs, Business membership groups, colleges, universities and local government who look at collaborative solutions to build on successful work to build a local skills offering. K Willard advised that LSA was in continuous conversations with local providers and, in this respect, it would be helpful if Z Oates could email K Willard with contact information. **Revised action date.**

**Action
ZO
20/06/15**

C2C Timetable

M Terry reported that Southend Borough Council and LSA were interested in introducing a late train, as currently the last train into London Fenchurch Street left Southend before midnight.

13.2 M Terry to provide update at next meeting. **Revised action date.**

**Action
MT
19/08/15**

Cllr Howard commented that there was a public C2C Consultative meeting to be held on Thursday 4th June, which may be an opportunity to raise the issue. JH replied that his preference would be to wait to speak with the bidders in relation to the next East Anglia rail franchise operation.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Refuelling light aircraft

R Smithson raised concern that nine months had elapsed since the self-pump refuelling from the bowser had been struck by lightning, and that this had still not been fixed due to a spare part being sourced.

14.1 JI/KW to investigate and report back separately with an update to R Smithson.

**JI/KW
10/06/15**

(b) Tour of Airport

JH commented that due to new members, it would be an opportune time for a tour of the Airport to take place, as all members would be able to see first-hand the developments, and also visit ATC.

Following a detailed discussion, it was agreed that due to members' busy schedules, a separate tour should take place (not attached to an ACC meeting), and that this should be conducted in September 2015.

14.2 JM and JI to liaise separately and consult with ATC, and put forward some suggested dates in September. **JM/JI**
20/06/15

15. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Further 2015 Committee dates, all at 2pm, are as follows:

- Wednesday, 19 August 2015
- Wednesday, 18 November 2015.

The meeting ended at 3.30pm.