

LONDON SOUTHEND AIRPORT

Minutes of meeting No. 113 of the Consultative Committee held on Wednesday 12 October 2022 at 2pm at Southend Airport

Present: David Osborn	Chairperson
Murray Foster	Deputy Chairperson
John Upton (JU)	CEO, LSA
Jo Marchetti (JM)	Corporate and Social Responsibility (CSR) Manager, LSA
Sam Petrie	Airport Development Co-ordinator, LSA
Councillor Michael Fuller	Castle Point Borough Council
Councillor Tom Cunningham	Essex County Council
Councillor Mike Steptoe	Essex County Council
Zhanine Smith (Officer) (via 'Teams')	Essex County Council
Mike Davies	Independent Representative
Ray Howard, MBE	Independent Representative
Councillor Ian Ward	Rochford District Council
Councillor Simon Wootton	Rochford District Council
Philip Drane (Officer)	Rochford District Council
Councillor Kevin Buck	Southend-on-Sea City Council
Councillor Paul Collins	Southend-on-Sea City Council
Councillor Lydia Hyde	Southend-on-Sea City Council
Mark Sheppard (Officer)	Southend-on-Sea City Council
Adrian Smith (Officer)	Southend-on-Sea City Council
Paul Wilkins	Rochford Board of Trade
Les Sawyer	Residents Association (West Leigh)
Ron Smithson	Southend Flying Clubs
Chris Davey	Observer
Richard Austin	Observer
Emma McDonnell (EM)	Secretary (Minutes)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Marc Taylor, Councillors Reeves, Cowan, Mulronev and Forde.

2. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME

- 2.1 The Chairperson welcomed attendees, including new members and the two 'observers' (candidates for the Independent Representative position on the committee) and reminded everyone of confidentiality until the minutes are published in draft on LSA's website, the process of which will continue in a speedy manner.
- 2.2 All attendees introduced themselves and John Upton, the new CEO of LSA, provided a brief summary of his professional background.
- 2.3 The Committee thanked Glyn Jones, JU's predecessor, for his commitment and all his endeavours over the years which, during recent months, had been extremely challenging due to the pandemic, and wished him a healthy and happy retirement. The Chairperson confirmed that he had written to Glyn separately to extend his regards for the future.
- 2.4 As this 1/4ly meeting had been postponed as a result of Queen Elizabeth's death, the Chairperson proposed that the next forum scheduled for 17 November 2022 be cancelled as it was only five weeks away. The usual data will be submitted to members when available, including an abridged CEO's report, allowing questions to be raised by the committee. Members voted on this suggestion and the majority agreed to the motion. **All to note.**

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- 3.1 The Chairperson reminded members to declare any conflicts of interest at each quarterly meeting.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING 25 MAY 2022

- 4.1 The minutes were formally adopted and can be uploaded in final form on to the LSA website. **Actioned – remove from minutes.**

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 Applicants for vacant ‘Independent Representative’ position

The Chairperson commented that in relation to potential candidates for the remaining vacant ‘Independent Representative’ position, the sub-committee had met with three applicants, two of whom were attending today as ‘observers’ to get a feel for the proceedings, and that the third candidate would attend a future meeting as an ‘observer’. Once this process is complete, the sub-committee will put forward a nomination to the LSACC for approval. **DO 01/03/23.**

5.2 Annual review of Constitution

The Chairperson confirmed that the sub-committee had carried out the annual review of the Constitution and went through the two minor text amendments. These were approved and the updated document will be uploaded on to the LSA website. **Actioned – remove from minutes.**

5.3 Annual review of the process in place to manage flights departing outside the NPRS

Compliance with Section 106 Agreement

5.3.1 Further to the annual review in May 2022 of the processes in place in relation to managing flights which depart outside the Noise Preferential Routes (NPRs), Z Smith confirmed that she had requested from the Strategic Aviation Specialist Interest Group (SASIG) any information from comparable airports, however, nothing had been forthcoming. Z Smith will mention the request at the next SASIG meeting in late October/early November and provide an update at the next LSACC meeting. **ZS 01/03/23.**

5.3.2 The Chairperson also confirmed that he had contacted UKACC who advised that such comparable information was not available from their members – every airport operates differently but the standard practice is that monies received from fines is given to charity.

5.3.3 The current procedure (infringement notices issued for 1st and 2nd offences, with a £500 fine for a 3rd offence) will continue, however, it was agreed to have this specific issue as an agenda item in March 2023. **EM 01/03/23.**

5.3.4 JM to prepare an illustration to show the effectiveness of the current procedure for detailed discussions at the next meeting. **JM 01/03/23.**

5.4 Annual Report

5.4.1 In relation to no waste going to landfill, JM confirmed that she had put Councillor Skeens in contact with the relevant individual to assist Maldon District Council on their endeavours in this specific area. **Actioned – remove from minutes.**

- 5.5 JM confirmed that she had emailed Cornelius Vermuyden School on Canvey in relation to exploring a relationship with them. **Actioned – remove from minutes.**
- 5.6 In relation to concentration levels of NO2 measured around the Airport and the recorded annual mean values for each testing site being amended by the relevant bias adjustment factor following DEFRA guidance, Councillor Hyde suggested that the figures are being under presented. JM asked if Councillor Hyde was referring to council data or LSA data. Councillor Hyde suggested LSA was using an incorrect bias adjustment calculation but was still looking into the matter with SCC. JM confirmed that LSA carries out such measuring in accordance with S106 in line with local authority monitoring. In answer to a question raised by Councillor Steptoe, JM confirmed that when monitoring NO2 levels it is not possible to determine the source, ie planes, road transport etc.
- 5.7 Councillor Wootton commented that there needs to be a clear alignment on calculations to ensure monitoring is in line with government standards.
- 5.8 Following detailed discussions, it was agreed that Councillor Hyde is to ascertain definitively if any anomaly exists and contact the Chairperson should there be a need to revisit this issue at the next LSACC meeting. If so, then Councillor Hyde to present a paper in layman terms so all members who aren't experts in this field have a clear understanding of the issue being raised. **Cllr Hyde 01/03/23.**
- 5.9 JM confirmed that the new CEO was arranging a meeting with the residents of Wells Avenue, providing the opportunity for matters to be raised directly. SCC currently provide an NO2 monitor in Wells Avenue. JM would be interested to see any data from Councillor Hyde that shows an increase in pollution levels considering the reduced levels of aircraft movements at the Airport in recent years. **Cllr Hyde to note.**
- 5.10 JM reported that SS2 (Wells Avenue) residents have a member on the Noise Forum who can bring forward any noise issues for discussion. The Noise Forum was not established as a forum for discussions on pollution.

6. POINTS FORWARD DIARY

6.1 Airport Surface Access Strategy (ASAS) Review

- 6.1.1 JM advised that there was very little to update against targets in relation to this document due to low passenger numbers and staff on-site as a result of the pandemic. **Transfer to Points Forward Diary November 2023.**

7. AIRSPACE CHANGE PROPOSALS

- 7.1 Firstly, Sam Petrie gave an update on the implementation of additional airspace to the North East of the aerodrome. The extension of Control Area (CTA) 10 was implemented on 8th September 2022 following LSA meeting the conditions of the CAA's decision letter.
- 7.2 Sam Petrie then updated on the RNAV / GNSS Approaches ACP. LSA has addressed comments made by the CAA on the designs and resubmitted to the CAA. Once the CAA is satisfied, there will be some further assessment work to complete on the designs before the CAA can make a decision on the ACP. It is expected that if approved, the procedures could be introduced towards the end of 2023.

- 7.3 In relation to FASI ACP, the Airport was busy over the summer pulling together information for Stage 2a. This will be uploaded to the CAA portal in due course and will be shared with stakeholders. Additionally, work has also commenced on Stage 2b, 'Options Appraisal' which includes high-level assessments relating to noise, air quality, safety etc, which is due for completion and submission to the CAA by 31st December 2022 to meet the January 2023 Gateway. Once LSA has passed through the gateway, work will commence on Stage 3, where the current options shown as swathes will be narrowed down to more defined routes and full consultation will be undertaken.
- 7.4 LSA submitted an ACP to the CAA in 2016 for the implementation of Standard Instrument Departure Routes (SIDs). LSA is currently in discussion with the CAA on this ACP. Sam Petrie to provide further update in March 2023. **SPP 01/03/23.**
- 7.5 **Post meeting note:** To assist members in relation to the FASI-S ACP, please find enclosed a copy of 'Airspace Change Organising Group's (ACOG) discussion Paper 'Technology options that support airspace modernisation'.
- 7.6 **Post meeting note:** Following Ray Howard's query, Sam Petrie confirmed with Nicole Park, Head of Air Traffic Services, that it is very likely to be LCY traffic routing overhead Canvey at 4000ft+. This will be tactical vectored shortcuts whilst LSA's airspace is quiet. They haven't permanently changed a routing. In response to Ron Smithson's query, LSA is also working on options for incentivising General Aviation over Winter.

8. CEO REPORT

- 8.1 The Committee reviewed the report prepared by GJ (prepared before he retired), covering the period May to July 2022. This report is published separately on the LSA website and should be read in conjunction with comments/questions below. No questions were submitted in advance of the meeting from members.
- 8.2 JU commented that it would be taken as 'read' and summarised a couple of specific points:
- 8.2.1 For the first few months in his role, this will be a 'discovery' stage for JU in getting to know the local community, stakeholders, customers etc. JU is eager to reignite the vibrancy back into the Airport in terms of flights/travellers and create more jobs.
- 8.2.2 JU is conscious that LSA is close to a resident base and will be meeting with Wells Avenue residents to listen to their concerns whilst balancing the needs of the business. JU is also happy to meet with the particular complainant from that area.
- 8.2.3 JU is happy to meet with any LSACC member one-to-one to see what LSA can do better in moving forward.
- 8.2.4 JU also went on to say that with the departure of the ASL cargo flights, a wonderful facility for freight exists and which would benefit with local job creation.
- 8.2.5 easyJet's summer schedule at LSA will cease end October, therefore, the winter months will be quiet, but the Airport will still be operating.

8.3 Questions raised during the meeting:

- 8.3.1 Councillor Steptoe commented that following residents being asked what routes they would like to see at LSA, how can the public encourage airlines to look at other routes and what would the process be. JM confirmed that the Airport's new marketing manager has been engaging more with local community, and on social media tags airlines on the public's responses. JU confirmed that LSA will review and provide feedback to the community in this respect. **JM to note.**
- 8.3.2 Paul Wilkins asked if the Airport could focus more on business travel, to which JU advised that the quickest way for LSA to recover is to focus on low-cost leisure travel, however, there is an opportunity for high-yield in private jets. Councillor Collins commented that there is a business market to tap into to access Europe, and all members were encouraged to contact JU in relation to ideas to promote LSA's offerings, both nationally and overseas, in terms of European business travel. **All to note.**
- 8.3.3 JU expressed his interest to extend relationships with colleges, schools, cadets, heritage groups etc, and it was agreed that as soon as the Airport's operations return, open days/tours will be arranged just like pre-pandemic. **All to note.**
- 8.3.4 Tickets for LSA's festive runway run 'Mental Elf' are now available to purchase. The annual event, in partnership with South East and Central Essex Mind, returns on Saturday 3 December (from 8am) and all members are invited to take part! Run, walk or jog the runway in your best fancy dress* whilst raising money for charity. **EARLY-BIRD TICKETS:** <https://lnkd.in/ekG9escu>
- *Not compulsory ... just for fun! **All to note.**
- 8.3.5 In relation to noise, JM stated that noise complaints are expected to reduce due to the absence of ASL cargo flights. With regard to the 1/4ly Noise Forum meetings, it has been challenging to have members on the committee engage with their local community. JM advised that at the next Noise Forum, a proposal will be submitted to have a fresh look at the structure of the committee and how to improve things moving forward, including discussing this with the Wells Avenue residents.
- 8.3.6 JM reported that in August when the Red Arrows and the RAF Typhoon used LSA, on some occasions, they departed outside the Noise Preferential Routes (NPRs), and after consulting Adrian Smith, a robust communication was issued to the offenders – they were reprimanded but not fined as it was agreed to do so could damage relationships. The meeting was unanimous with the decision taken.
- 8.3.7 In response to Councillor Ward's question regarding freight companies upgrading their aircraft, JM confirmed that when talking to new customers they ensure their aircraft falls within the S106 controls. Due to the pandemic and financial implications, the majority of airlines are not in a position to upgrade.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 9.1 None reported.

10. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

The next Committee meetings in 2023, starting at 2pm, are as follows:

Tuesday 28 February

Wednesday 24 May

Wednesday 13 September

Wednesday 22 November

The meeting ended at 4.00pm

Signed _____ Date: _____

Enc: Airspace Change Organising Group's (ACOG) discussion Paper 'Technology options that support airspace modernisation'