

ROBIN HOOD DONCASTER SHEFFIELD AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING

28 FEBRUARY 2007

PRESENT: Alan Tolhurst (Chairman).
Councillor Sheila Place (Nottinghamshire County Council),
Councillor Paula Haigh (Rossington Parish Council),
Councillor Norma McCarron (Blaxton Parish Council),
Neville Dearden (Doncaster Chamber),
Phil Cole (Office of Caroline Flint MP),
Councillor Pat Bartlett (DMBC),
Councillor Yvonne Woodcock (DMBC),
Councillor Barbara Hoyle (DMBC),
Councillor G M Jameson (DMBC),
Andrew Bosmans (FODSA),
Richard Massingham, Clare Wilson (RHADS),
Martin McCarthy (South Yorkshire Joint Secretariat).

Also in attendance:- Jim Bamford (Nottinghamshire County Council).

Apologies for absence were received from:- Sandra Withington (Bassetlaw Development Forum), Dr Tony Baxter (Health Impact Group), Councillor Robert MacDonald (Sheffield City Council), Councillor Ken Sanderson (BMBC), Councillor Glynn Robinson (RMBC).

AIRSPACE CHANGE PROPOSAL

The Chairman thanked Members for their attendance at this Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee.

The Committee had considered the consultation document previously circulated and made the following points:-

- The airport operator's plans to install Noise Monitoring and Track Keeping Systems would to be welcomed, particularly by local residents concerned about aircraft flying at low level over their villages.
- It was noted that the proposal would not significantly change arrival patterns, although it was hoped that the airport operators would continue to take every opportunity to remind airlines and their pilots of the need to avoid over flying built up areas at low level whenever possible.
- The introduction of the Continuous Decent Approach procedure for arriving aircraft would be welcomed by local residents, as it was hoped that this would result in reduced noise.

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- With regard to departures, it was recognised that the current noise preferential routes would not be substantially altered, although it was noted that more aircraft were likely to use the runway 20 Upton departure route than had been the case previously. The Committee welcomed the fact that there would be a proportional reduction in the volume of aircraft departing to the East and that the Upton departure route had been designed so as to avoid villages to the West of the airport. Aircraft would normally have reached a height of 3,000 feet before over flying built up areas.
- It was noted that the proposal took account of the planning conditions and obligations set out in the Section 106 Planning Agreement with Doncaster MBC. The intention to continue adherence to the Section 106 Quiet Operations Policy was welcomed as was the retention of the Sound Insulation Grant Scheme. The Committee noted the need to extend the area covered by the Grant Scheme in 2014, and congratulated the Airport on extending the current scheme beyond that required by the Section 106 Agreement.

The Committee wished to place on record their thanks and appreciation to Richard Massingham and staff at Robin Hood Airport for presenting such complex information in such a manner as to make it easier for the layman to understand.

Following the presentation to the Committee, the Chairman requested members to outline their views on the proposal in order that a coordinated response could be provided to the airport operator on behalf of the Airport Consultative Committee. The following points were supported:-

- The proposal to introduce new controlled airspace arrangements at Robin Hood Airport was supported by the ACC.
- The Committee saw the Airport as a key economic driver for future regeneration in the region.
- The proposal took account of the anticipated increase in air traffic and as such the aim to significantly improve safety for all affected by the airports operations.
- The Committee welcomed the airport operator's commitment to reducing, as far as possible, the environmental impact of its operation on the local community.
- The ACC welcomed the opportunity to comment on the proposal.