

## ROBIN HOOD DONCASTER SHEFFIELD AIRPORT

### CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

### COMMUNITY SUB COMMITTEE

14 MARCH 2008

PRESENT: Councillor Y Woodcock (DMBC) [in the Chair]  
Councillors: P Farrell (Armthorpe PC) C Stringer (N.E.Bassetlaw Forum), B Slade (Maltby Town Council) E Darby (Hatfield T.C), N McCarron (Blaxton P.C) P Haigh (Rossington P.C) R Brown (Blyth P.C), A White (ERNLLCA), A Copley (Bawtry Town Council) J Worthington (Cantley with Branton P.C) I Swainston (Auckley P.C), K Robinson (Finningley P.C), F W Higgins (Tickhill P.C)

Officers attending: C Wilson (RHADS), L Cooksey (South Yorkshire Joint Secretariat)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Johnson, E Lodge

### MINUTES

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of the ACC Community Sub-Committee held on 12 December 2007 be agreed as a correct record.

A Tolhurst requested C Wilson to clarify whether the Airport Master Plan had been released for formal consultation. The Sub-Committee noted that the plan had not yet been released for formal consultation.

Councillor Woodcock enquired whether consultation activities would be widespread. C Wilson informed the Sub-Committee of the consultation measures the Airport proposed to undertake.

### OPERATORS REPORT

C Wilson reported on the operation of the Airport. The Sub-Committee notes that passenger numbers had continued to increase. The Airport had now been used by 2.7m passengers; approximately 1 million passengers a year were using the Airport.

With regard to freight, the amount processed was less than originally forecast. The Airport continued to talk to freight and passenger operators with a view to expanding the services using the Airport.

The Sub-Committee discussed the lack of signage for the Airport from the M18. C Wilson informed the meeting that the Airport was aware of the problem and

commented that P Nears was continually in contact with the Highways Agency in an attempt to secure improved road signage for the Airport.

Members commented on the lack of a direct public transport link from Sheffield to the Airport. C Wilson informed the Sub-Committee that the Airport had worked with South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive on proposals to improve public transport services to the Airport. Proposals for a direct Sheffield Robin Hood Airport service had gone out to tender. C Wilson commented that the Passenger throughput was still not at a level where it could support commercial bus services.

The Sub-Committee noted Sheffield Airport would be ceasing all fixed wing operations at the end of March 2008. As a consequence the flying school based at Sheffield Airport would be relocating to Robin Hood Airport. As a consequence there would be an increase in training flights. The Sub-Committee noted that the Chief Flying Instructor of the Training School would serve on the Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee.

Resolved –

- (i) That the report be noted
- (ii) That Regional Development Agency Tourism Officers be invited to attend meetings of the Sub-Committee  
**Action: L Cooksey**
- (iii) That the Tourist Development Officer at Yorkshire South be invited to give a presentation to the Sub-Committee, outlining the work undertaken to develop tourism in South Yorkshire

#### COMMUNITY FUND APPLICATIONS

C Wilson reported on an application received from Blaxton P.C. for £950 to partially fund the provision of a hardstanding for cars at Blaxton Parish Hall.

Resolved – That the Sub-Committee agrees to support the application from Blaxton P.C. for £950 to partially fund the provision of a hardstanding for cars at Blaxton Parish Hall.

**NB. Councillor N McCarron declared a personal interest in the above item and took no part in the voting thereon.**

#### TRAINING FLIGHTS

Councillor White enquired whether planning applications to erect a Wind Farm on Thorne Moors would affect aircraft operation. C Wilson explained that as part of planning agreement an improved radar system is required to be funded by the developer.

Councillor White informed the Sub-Committee that she had heard of complaints about training aircraft flying over Wroot had submitted complaints about training

aircraft flying circuits over the village every eight minutes for periods of up to two hours.

The Sub-Committee noted that the portable noise monitoring equipment would be sited at Wroot for a period to monitor noise levels.

C Wilson informed the Sub-Committee that the Airport intended to report on aircraft performance now that the new track keeping system was operational.

Chair