

ROBIN HOOD DONCASTER SHEFFIELD AIRPORT

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

NOISE MONITORING SUB-COMMITTEE

24 JUNE 2008

PRESENT: Councillor P Schofield (in the Chair)
J Turner, M Stewart and J McCabe (DMBC), A Bosmans (FODSA),
J Proudman (Bassetlaw DC), C Stringer (North East Bassetlaw Forum),
L Hunter (PCALC), A Tolhurst (Airport Consultative Committee),

C Wilson, M Morton, A. M Pike (RHADS), A Shirt (SYJS).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P Bartlett.

1 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair congratulated Alan Tolhurst for been awarded an OBE for voluntary service to the community in South Yorkshire.

The Chair welcomed Mike Morton to the Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee. Mr Morton confirmed that he was the new Airport Director and gave a short history of his employment in aviation prior to joining Robin Hood Airport.

2 MINUTES

RESOLVED – That subject to the amendment of minute 3 (v), to read “Doncaster MBC will consider the scheme”. The minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2008 be agreed as a correct record.

3 MATTERS ARISING

A Tolhurst enquired if the Flying School had settled in at Robin Hood Airport. C Wilson confirmed that they had indeed settled in well and in terms of noise complaints, none had been received.

The Chair enquired if the Sound Insulation Grant Scheme was likely to be continued. C Wilson confirmed that it was unlikely that the scheme would continue, however, if different aircrafts started to be used, then the airport would need to take action to address this.

The Chair asked C Wilson to provide the Committee with details of the Sound Insulation Grant Scheme at the next meeting.

Action: C Wilson

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C Wilson circulated a copy of a progress report entitled “Robin Hood Airport Doncaster/Sheffield – Progress Report on Implementation of Planning Conditions/Section 106 Obligation”. The report addressed the progress in relation to the airports implementation of planning conditions and obligations. In particular the report examined the implementation by the airport of three of its noise obligations, namely, the Noise Sanctions Scheme, the Aircraft Tracking System and current restrictions on QC4 noise rated aircraft at night.

The Committee noted that the report would be discussed at Doncaster MBC’s Planning Committee on 24 June 2008. C Wilson added that the Planning Committee would be recommended to:

1. Note the progress of implementation of the planning conditions/Section 106 Obligation in relation to the Noise Sanctions Scheme and Aircraft Operations at Night; and
2. Approve the proposed scheme in relation to the Aircraft Tracking System.

The Sub-Committee discussed in detail the proposed recommendations and noted that it was the airport’s intention to submit a formal application to Doncaster MBC for a variation to the provisions of the Quiet Operations Policy of Section 106 Agreement. This would permit the airport to operate QC4 aircraft at night.

The Sub-Committee commented that adequate consultation needed to take place between members of the public and local communities if the airport decided to pursue with the variation application. The Sub-Committee noted that this could have potential economic benefits for the airport; however, noise impacts needed to be balanced.

J Turner stated that any back ground documentation in relation to the proposed application needed to be submitted to Doncaster MBC prior to the formal application process. C Wilson confirmed that information would be submitted when available.

RESOLVED – That the Sub-Committee note the progress report to be submitted to Doncaster MBC’s Planning Committee on 24 June 2008.

4 QUARTERLY NOISE MONITORING REPORT

C Wilson, Environment and Community Manager presented the Noise Monitoring report for the period April 2008 to June 2008.

(i) Runway Utilisation

In summary:-

- Predominantly arrivals were from the north.

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- Departures were more evenly spread with marginally more departures to the north than the south; this was in accordance with the Preferential Runway Policy.

(ii) Night Noise

C Wilson reminded the meeting that each aircraft was allocated a noise value (Quota Count Point [QCP]) ranging from 0.5 – 16. The Airport was allocated 3500 QCPs for the first summer period rising to 5000 ACPs in the fifth summer season on a pro-rata basis. The table below shows QCPs used for the summer and winter 2007/08 season.

Year	Air Traffic Movements (23:30 – 06:00)			
	Summer		Winter	
	Limit	Usage	Limit	Usage
2007/08	4250	339	2875	109.50

The Committee noted that night movements at the airport were minimal. Within the S106 allocated to QCP's there was significant capacity to operate further movements at night if required.

(iii) Sound Insulation Grant Scheme

To date 24 properties had taken up the Sound Insulation Grant Scheme out of a total of 247 (10%). The Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee noted that the future of the scheme continuing was unlikely.

(iv) Night Noise Sanctions Policy

The Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee noted that it had been agreed between the airport and Doncaster MBC to retain the existing Night Noise Sanctions Scheme and would be reviewed again before October 2008.

A report recommending the scheme would be discussed at the Planning Committee on 24 June 2008.

C Wilson added that the airport had not penalised any aircraft during the period of this report.

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(v) Noise and Track keeping System

C Wilson reported that the airport had installed the Noise and Track Keeping System and were experiencing minor problems which the airport was resolving on a daily basis.

(vi) Training Circuits

C Wilson illustrated the routes that training aircraft undertake.

(vii) Noise Complaints

C Wilson reported that the number of noise complaints was gradually falling in relation to the number of air transport movements (ATM'S). The Committee noted that the majority of complaints were from the Bawtry area and a number of isolated individuals in Hatfield Woodhouse and Moorends.

In summary:

- Noise complaints had fallen comparing 2006 against 2007.
- Complaints received for February, March and April 2008 had significantly fallen in comparison with 2007's figures.

5 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

C Wilson reported that a complaint letter had been received from Edenthorpe and Barnaby Dunn area relating to NPR's and the extent of the consultation on the airspace change stating that no consultation had taken place prior to the application. C Wilson added that the complainant had requested that this complaint be taken to the Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee for comment.

After discussions the Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee requested that C Wilson respond to the complainant stating that adequate consultation had taken place and correct procedures had been followed.

Action: C Wilson

6 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee be held on Monday 29 September 2008 at 9.30 am.

CHAIR