

ROBIN HOOD DONCASTER SHEFFIELD AIRPORT

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

NOISE MONITORING SUB-COMMITTEE

29 SEPTEMBER 2008

PRESENT: Councillor P Schofield (in the Chair)
Councillor Y Woodcock, J S Turner, R K Ford, B Leary and J McCabe (DMBC), J Proudman (Bassetlaw DC), A Tolhurst (Airport Consultative Committee), Councillor C Stringer (North East Bassetlaw Forum), D Lindley (Parish Councils Liaison Group).

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor B Johnson, Councillor P Haigh, A Bosmans, B Brown and M Morton.

1 **WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed David Lindley representing the Parish Councils Liaison Group and Brian Leary from Doncaster Council's Environmental Health Department.

2 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That subject to the addition of the following text to minute 3, to read "The Sub-Committee noted that the Doncaster MBC planning application process would determine if the airport would carry out consultation with villages in the Doncaster area". The minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2008 be agreed as a correct record.

3 **MATTERS ARISING**

C Wilson informed the Sub-Committee that the existing Night Noise Sanctions Policy would be submitted to Doncaster MBC for approval in October 2008. Following this the report would be presented to the December meeting of the Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee.

4 **QUARTERLY OPERATIONS/NOISE MONITORING REPORT**

C Wilson, Environment and Community Manager presented the Operations/Noise Monitoring report for the period July 2008 to August 2008.

(i) **Noise Complaints**

The Sub-Committee noted that the number of noise complaints for 2008 had fluctuated in relation to the number of complaints received in 2007.

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August 2008 recorded the highest number for the year to date, totalling 104, however, this was lower than the number of noise complaints received in August 2007.

(ii) Sound Insulation Grant Scheme

To date 23 properties had taken up the Sound Insulation Grant Scheme out of a total of 247.

The Sub-Committee were informed that the Sound Insulation Grant Scheme's (SIGS) current contours were 90 dB SEL.

C Wilson added that the Sound Insulation Grant Scheme was assessed by noise data received from the two fixed noise monitoring terminals; runway utilisation statistics; terrain; local weather information; noisiest and most common aircraft operating (Boeing 737-300) and data that was fed into the Integrated Noise Modeller (NMI) to produce the contours.

The Sub-Committee were informed that the Scheme:

- Offered 80% of the cost (up to £3,000 and a 20% resident contribution);
- £500 towards loft insulation;
- 5 habitable rooms (excluding bathrooms, landing and kitchen) qualified under the scheme.

The Sub-Committee noted that residents were required to have a mechanical ventilation unit placed in rooms where glazing work had been undertaken.

C Wilson informed the Sub-Committee of the average, maximum and minimum noise levels recorded from various aircrafts by the Boston Park Farm and Bawtry noise monitors.

(iii) Runway Utilisation Figures

In summary:-

- Predominantly arrivals were from the north.
- Departures were more evenly spread with marginally more departures to the north than the south.

(iv) Track Keeping System

C Wilson demonstrated the Track Keeping System to the Sub-Committee highlighting how useful the system was for investigating noise complaints. C Wilson added that records of track keeping would be reported to Doncaster MBC on a monthly basis.

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A Tolhurst congratulated the airport for installing the Track Keeping System before the required deadline.

Members of the Sub-Committee requested more information to be presented on QC4 activity and any complaints that had been received.

Action: C Wilson

5 QC4 BRIEFING

The Sub-Committee were informed that the airport was intending to make an application to Doncaster MBC to relax QC4 operations at the airport.

C Wilson presented to the Sub-Committee information regarding the current night aircraft operational restrictions at UK regional airports during the time period of 23:00 to 23:30 for QC4 aircraft. Members noted that Robin Hood currently had a ban on scheduled landing and departures during the hours of 23:00 to 23:30.

C Wilson added that during the time period 23:30 to 06:00 Robin Hood currently banned scheduled landing and departures, however, non-scheduled landings were allowed. Members noted that during the time period 06:00 to 07:00 the same restrictions applied.

The Sub-Committee were informed that Robin Hood also banned non-scheduled departures during this time period. Members noted the restrictions in place at Robin Hood in comparison with other UK regional airports.

Members questioned how many QC4 aircraft would land and depart at the airport during the year. C Wilson informed the Sub-Committee that forecasts estimate QC4 aircraft movements may make up approximately 1 to 2% of operations during the night time period per annum. The Sub-Committee noted that this would allow a mix of operations (passenger and cargo) to take place at the airport. This would allow the flexibility for airlines to make full use of the airport's facilities and wider business park. .

J McCabe questioned when the application was likely to be received by Doncaster MBC. C Wilson was able to confirm that the application would be submitted alongside the launch of the Airport Master Plan in late October 2008/early November 2008

A Tolhurst informed the Sub-Committee that he had received a letter (anonymously addressed) from Blaxton and Finningley residents in relation to the proposed QC4 application. The Sub-Committee noted that several anonymous letters were currently in circulation and are a cowardly act and urged the writers to wait until the application had been submitted to Doncaster MBC to gain a fuller understanding of the airports intentions.

J McCabe informed the Sub-Committee that a recent PCT Health Impact Group, members had discussed the implications of the proposed QC4 operations at night.

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A Tolhurst requested that a copy of the minutes be circulated to all members of the Airport Consultative Committee.

Action: J McCabe/A Shirt

6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee be held on Wednesday 3 December 2008 at 9.30 am

CHAIR