

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES OF THE SOLENT AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: 23 November 2022

Venue: Collingwood Room – Fareham Borough Council

Committee Members Present:

Fareham Borough Council

Councillor Sean Woodward

Councillor Simon Martin

Councillor Tiffany Harper

Councillor Jacquie Needham

Councillor Stephen Dugan

Hampshire County Council

Councillor Pal Hayre

Aerodrome

David Pinhorne - Daedalus Aviation and Heritage Group

Frank Thompson – Phoenix Aviation

Paul Coppin – Lee-On-Solent Microlight Club

Community

Brian Mansbridge – Lee-On-Solent Residents Association

Peter Wason – Hillhead Residents Association

Also in Attendance:

Regional and City Airports (RCA)

Marshall Barrand, Projects Director

Martyn Francis, Airport Manager

Cathy Hicks, Communications and Stakeholder Liaison Officer

Fareham Borough Council

Sarah Ward, Head of Strategic Sites

Richard Jolley, Director of Planning and Regeneration

Rachel Hick, Strategic Sites Development Officer

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Durrant from Gosport Borough Council, Ellie O'Toole from Euroflight Training and the Ranvilles Residents Community Group.

2. Notes of the Previous Meeting/Matters Arising

The notes of the meeting held on 22 June 2022 were received and agreed as a correct record.

3. Consultative Committee Matters

There were no Committee matters to consider at this meeting.

4. Airport Management Matters

Members of the RCA Management Team delivered a presentation on various Airport Management Matters:

A copy of the presentation will be circulated with these Minutes.

a) Airport Operations

Martyn Francis presented details of the Airport Operations highlighting all the activities undertaken in the day to day running of the airport.

No questions were received from the Committee.

b) Performance

Marshall Barrant presented details on the airport performance which outlined the movements at the airport from April 2022 to September 2022 and how they compare to the previous year. The strategy will remain to target higher yield movements, such as corporate and military aircraft, to improve revenue for 2023.

No questions were received from the Committee.

c) Complaints

Marshall Barrant provided an overview of complaints received about the airport. 99.3% of complaints made are from the Ranvilles Residents Community Group.

Question – What action has been taken against pilots that have been breaking the rules and how can they be stopped from using the airspace?

Answer – A visiting flying school and one solo pilot have been stopped from using the airport.

Question – Why are the complaint figures from July and August this year so high?

Answer – There would have been higher traffic levels at that time of year.

Question – Is there a main area of concern in the complaints received?

Answer – Yes, the main topic of the complaints received is to do with overflying residential areas. The RCA are making every effort to mitigate this. All pilots are made aware of their impact on residents, but factors such as the weather, visibility and safety to avoid other aircraft means that overflying will occur at times and cannot always be avoided. However, this is only a concern in the area around Ranvilles Lane, which is hard to explain as there is nothing different in that area from other residential areas from a flying perspective.

Question – Has the new circuit helped to reduce the number of complaints?

Answer – It should have done but unfortunately, it has not.

Marshall assured the Committee that the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) had investigated the complaints from the Ranvilles Lane area themselves and have no concerns about the airport operation and its impact on nearby residents.

The Chairman also commented that no member of the Committee in attendance has any concerns or is raising similar complaints which is reassuring.

d) Safety and Security

Martyn Francis provided an overview of the airport's safety and security, highlighting that the Solent Airport continues to operate safely.

No questions were received from the Committee.

e) Airspace

Martyn Francis presented details on the airspace matters.

5. Airport Development

Martyn Francis presented information on the airport's development.

Question – What work is being done to look into sustainability?

Answer – The main focus on sustainability is around fuel supply such as Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), UL91 unleaded fuel, and electric aircraft and charging technology. All of these alternative fuel source could help to reduce the airports emissions. Unfortunately, the infrastructure and technology are still in early stages and there is still a lot of work that needs to be done before these fuel sources are viable for the airport.

Question – What would the percentage of carbon reduction be if an alternative fuel source was implemented?

Answer – currently measuring and setting targets is being driven by commercial airlines rather than GA. We have no way of measuring the impact / improvement which will come from our sector utilising such fuels as yet. Even with UL91 only 55% of GA aircraft currently would be compatible to operate with this fuel. Price of these new fuels being

at existing market prices will dictate pilots use of UL91 and SAF. As it stands the UK has no refinery and storage facility for fuels such as UL91 therefore the costs remain prohibitive to majority of pilots. This is before converting aircraft engines to be compatible. Consequently, percentage of carbon reduction benefit remains an unknown for our sector but in time more information around setting targets will come from government and possibly through the CAA. We will of course keep the committee briefed on developments as they evolve.

Question – Would unleaded fuel be a better option to reduce emissions?

Answer – Only about 55% of General Aviation aircraft are currently compatible with unleaded fuel but yes this could help to reduce the emissions at the airport.

Question – What type of aircraft are the ‘heavier’ aircraft referred to in the presentation?

Answer – These are the corporate aircraft including Rotary and Military aircraft, like the recent Chinook helicopter which landed at the airfield.

Question - Recently a Royal Air Force Voyager flew over Oxfordshire using cooking oil and was the first 100% SAF flight in the UK. Is this an option for any aircraft at the Solent Airport.

Answer – It isn’t an option at the moment as the CAA have different rules to the Military Aviation Authority (MAA). But this flight is a good news story and certainly a move in the right direction.

6. Any Other Business

Brian Mansbridge from the Lee-On-Solent Residents Association addressed the Committee to ask that consideration be given by Fareham Borough Council to collaborating with Gosport Borough Council with regards to the new Daedalus Development which borders the Solent Airport site. In particular, the Hovercraft Museum which is due to be enhanced as part of the planning proposals.

The Chairman agreed that working together would be beneficial as the heritage attractions could otherwise be in competition with each other. The progress of this development will be watched with interest by FBC and that conversations are needed to investigate the various options further.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 13 June 2023 at 2.30pm.

(The meeting started at 2:30pm
and ended at 3:08pm)

Solent Airport Daedalus Consultative Committee Meeting 23 November 2022



Agenda Item 4 Airport Management Matters

a). Airport Operations

Activity	Comments
Airport Safety	CV-19, RIDDORS, MORs, AORs and Security Threats
Commercial opportunities	Café @Zero5 out to tender with submissions due early December 2022. Strategy to bring better mix of aircraft is paying off with many more high quality movements being generated than ever before.
De-carbonisation Review	Carbon reduction plan to support reduced energy consumption and improve carbon footprint is being developed and integrated into Council's Climate Change Action Plan
Community Events Support	Successful Autumn Tenants event held with nearly 70 in attendance. Christmas community event scheduled for late December. All proceeds to nominated charity.
Staff & Training	Initiative to combine roles with future recruitment being drawn up to ensure staffing levels and resilience. Deputy Airport Manager role introduced.
Airport Tours	Spring/summer tours proved very popular. Next programme planned to commence early Spring 2023.
Airport Development	Airfield Ground Lighting (AGL) and Performance Based Navigation (PBN) projects underway AGL designs being completed for submission of planning application. Proposals for Visual Control Tower project being progressed.
Special visits / events	Events schedule 2023 drawn up to support various flying clubs fly-Ins from as far afield as Holland.
Airport Audits	CAA Audit in August – successful outcome.

Agenda Item 4

a). Airport Operations

Aerodrome Traffic Zone (ATZ), circuit and overhead joins

- New trial circuit operated on Runway 23 during the month of September/October 2022 (use of alternate visual routing). Revised visual circuit mirrored to allow one set circuit and formally introduced on 01st November 2022.
- Pilot Flight Apps and Aeronautical information Publication (AIP) from NATS will be adjusted to reflect this change.
- Fleetlands ATZ LOA still with CAA for approval.

Agenda Item 4

b). Performance (Apr-Sep)

Measures	FY22	FY21	% Var.
Total Traffic (excl. SAR)	19,207	19,441	(1%)
Flying Schools	12,309	12,108	2%
Rotary	948	734	2%
Corporate	322	175	84%
Military	19	11	73%
SA	999	758	32%
Fuel Sales (Litres)			
Jet A1	87,802	33,751	160%
Avgas	129,300	124,054	4%
Hangar Capacity	28	27	4%
Ground Capacity Parking	9	4	125%

Measures	2022	2021	% Var.
RIDDOR incidents** (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations)	0	0	n/a
MORs (incl. AORs) (Mandatory Occurrence Reporting)	26	22	18%
Security Threats	0	0	n/a
CV-19	0	1	(100%)
Audit	2	4	(50%)

Outlook FY23

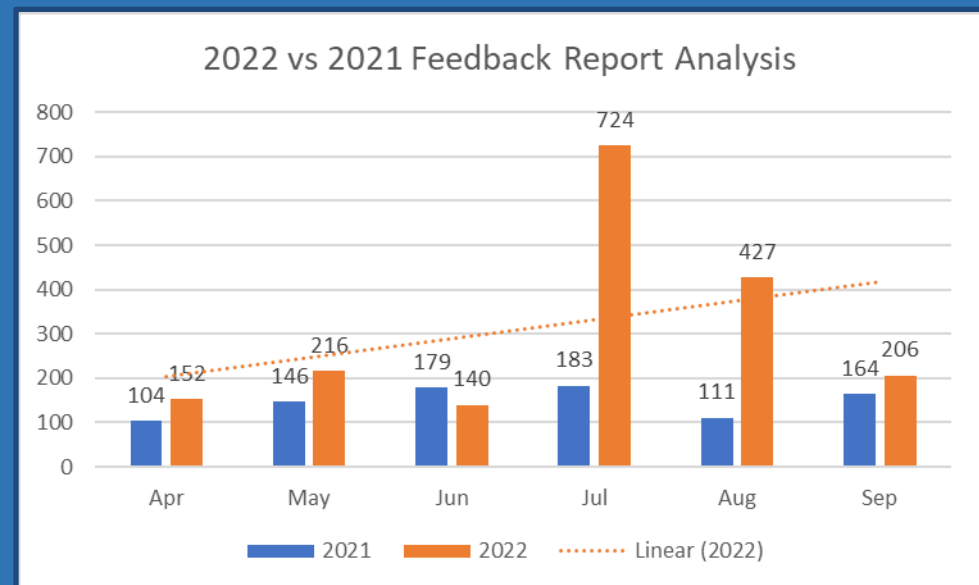
Current trends indicate volume will remain relatively unchanged YoY. Fees & Charges changes will it is anticipated help improve revenue for the year ahead. The focus is on higher yield movements: corporate fixed, rotary, and military.

Agenda Item 4

c). Complaints Monitoring

- Data illustrates the number of complaints by month and the comparison to last year.
- There has been a 110% increase YoY in the number of complaints received.
- The percentage of complaints to movements has moved from 5% in 2021 to 9% in 2022.
- The trend suggests the number of complaints is rising despite movements being at levels commensurate to 2021.
- The overwhelming majority of complaints continue to be received from RRCG.

Month	2021	2022
Apr	104	152
May	146	216
Jun	179	140
Jul	183	724
Aug	111	427
Sep	164	206
Total	887	1865
% of Movs.	5%	9%



Agenda Item 4

d). Safety and Security

- Compliance with regulations is high and has been evidenced again following a recent audit in August by the regulator (CAA).
- Solent Airport continues to operate safely with 26 occurrence reports being recorded in the period Apr-Sep 2022.
 - **This resulted in one resident pilot being excluded from flying operations.**
- The airport Emergency Planning Committee met October 2022
- CV-19 - zero events in the last 6 months.

Agenda Item 4 e). Airspace

- Wildlife control around the airport and the associated risk is a constant area of focus. Monitoring of our regime and impact assessment to ensure we keep up with safe wildlife control remains crucial.
- Fleetlands; review of Letter of Agreement (LoA) and additional utilisation of Fleetlands ATZ for Solent traffic is in progress. Currently with CAA for endorsement. This will aid improvement for joins and departures to/from the north.



Agenda Item 5

Airport Development

- Carbon Sustainability & Environmental, Social and Governance road map being developed to support Council's Climate Change Action Plan. This includes exploring low lead fuel such as UL91, SAF. On airport electric charging for aircraft also being studied.
- Airfield Ground Lighting (AGL) and Performance Based Navigation (PBN) projects underway AGL designs being completed for submission of planning application.
- Proposals for Visual Control Tower project being progressed.
- FY24 business plan now in development focusing on impact of investment programme to movements and revenue growth.

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