

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE SOLENT AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Date:** 05 November 2024

**Venue:** Collingwood Room – Fareham Borough Council

**Committee Members Present:**

**Fareham Borough Council**

Councillor Simon Martin

Councillor Roger Bird

Councillor Stephen Dugan

**Hampshire County Council**

Councillor Pal Hayre

**Gosport Borough Council**

Councillor Graham Burgess

**Aerodrome**

David Pinhorne - Daedalus Aviation and Heritage Group

Frank Thompson – Phoenix Aviation

Paul Coppin – Daedalus Aviation and Heritage Group

**Community**

Brian Mansbridge – Lee-On-The-Solent Residents Association

Ken Mackenzie – Hill Head Residents Association

**Also in Attendance:**

**Regional and City Airports (RCA)**

Martyn Francis, Airport Manager

Marshall Barrand, Projects Director

**Fareham Borough Council**

Richard Jolley, Director of Planning and Regeneration

Richard Guyver, Daedalus Lead

## **1. Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies of absence were received from Councillor J Needham and Ranvilles Residents Community Group.

Councillor S Martin from Fareham Borough Council introduced himself as the new Chairman as the new Chairman of the Committee, replacing Sean Woodward. The Chairman also welcomed Councillor Roger Bird as a new Member to the Committee.

## **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting/Matters Arising**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 April 2024 were received.

Councillor Bird requested that he be marked in attendance on the previous Minutes, as he had observed the meeting on the 30 April 2024.

A duplication in text was also highlighted to the Committee on page 3 of the Minutes.

It was agreed that the Minutes would be updated and republished to the website.

There were no matters arising from the previous Minutes.

## **3. Airport Management Matters**

The Chairman addressed the Committee to explain that due to the various discussions that have taken place at previous meetings with regards to lead in fuel, Officers from Fareham Borough Council have been investigating the concept of air quality level tests and will be gathering information to ascertain how this is monitored nationwide and at other airfields. This is an important piece of work as lead can derive from various factors. An update on this will be provided at future meetings of the Committee.

Martyn Francis and Marshall Barnard 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. He presented an update on the AGL installation which is nearing completion and had a successful flight check. There are several more stages to go including CAA approval. Martyn then went on to provide a staffing update and information on the various events and community engagement activities that had taken place since the last meeting.

Question – Councillor Burgess commented on the D-Day 80 event that happened in June this year as parking on the first day of the event had caused problems on the local road network.

Answer – Martyn reassured Members that Fareham Borough Council had held a debriefing session with Montserrat Events who managed the event. Montserrat advised officers that lessons had been learnt for the future.

Question – Councillor Hayre enquired about the Aeronautical Ground Lighting (AGL) that is being installed on the runway as comments had been made about the brightness and length of time that the lights will be on for.

Answer – Martyn explained that the lights are brighter during the day and much dimmer at night to avoid dazzling the pilots. When the airfield is closed the system control can be given to the Coastguard for remote operation. This will leave the lights on for a 15-minute window before turning off.

Question – The Chairman asked when the AGL is likely to be completed.

Answer – Martyn advised that he was not able to provide a date for completion as the CAA are in control of the next stage, but explained that they are hoping for a quick turnaround.

## **b) Fuel Update**

Martyn provided an update on the fuel use at the airfield, highlighting that they are expecting a high uptake on UL91 once available.

Question – Councillor Bird asked if the aircraft not using the UL91 will switch to UL100 when available in the UK and if this would include older aircraft such as the Spitfire?

Answer – Martyn advised that this is not known as UL100 is still undergoing trials in the US and he was not aware of results of testing on older aircraft. Availability of UL100 supply will also likely be a challenge if it is introduced to the UK.

## **c) Performance**

Martyn went on to present details on the airport performance explaining that the weather has been a big factor in the performance figures for this year, but the good mix of traffic means revenue is still up by 1% on the previous year at this time.

Question – Councillor Hayre asked if the international flights were on route from Daedalus or just using to refuel?

Answer – Martyn explained that it is a mix of both as some craft who fly to non UK destinations are based at the airfield.

## **d) Compliments and Complaints**

Martyn provided an overview of compliments and complaints that have been received by the RCA, highlighting that the complaints received are down on previous years.

Marshall addressed the Committee to provide an update on a face-to-face meeting that he had attended with the RRCG. He explained that the meeting had provided an opportunity for him to clarify the circuit traffic and the CAA's (Civil Aviation Authorities) position. Included in the discussion was a reminder of allowable flying heights. As much of Ranvilles Lane is not designated as a congested area aircraft can fly to as low as

500ft and lower in the act of take-off or landing. The meeting sought to keep the group informed, with the aim of reducing complaints, but contact remains high with 2 – 3 complaints on average still received each week from the RRCG. All complaints received are of a similar narrative which do not require any further action unless the pilots flying to/from the airfield have not operated correctly.

Question – Councillor Hayre asked if the issues within the complaints received by residents' associations are the same?

Answer – Marshall explained that although the focus had changed from low flying and noise to concerns over residents' health and the environment, there was still a clear narrative around pilots flying low over residents' properties on purpose which is not the case. Marshall explained, as he had done to the RRCG, that once airborne the Aerodrome Flight Information Service Officer (AFISO) has no authority to instruct a pilot how to fly, they can only offer information on safe flight.

Question – Councillor Bird asked if the presentation slides could be circulated ahead of the meeting going forward to allow Members of the Committee to consider the contents before the meeting, especially when there is data to be considered.

Answer – It was agreed that the slides would be circulated a day or two ahead of the Committee meetings moving forward.

Question – Councillor Dugan enquired about the unreasonable complaints policy that had been applied to the RRCG and if this is reviewed.

Answer - Richard Guyver advised that the restrictions applied to the RRCG are reviewed annually but that this only applies to complaints received by Fareham Borough Council. At this time the RCA has a slightly different feedback process.

Marshall went on to explain that since Fareham Borough Council's new complaints policy has been in place, RCA has now elected to bring their own protocols in line with the Council's policy and it is working very well. It may be necessary for RCA to apply similar restrictions to the RRCG under the unreasonable complaints policy as at this time they have exhausted all other avenues.

Question – Councillor Bird asked if the restriction applies to all residents of Ranvilles Lane or just the Ranvilles Residents Community Group (RRCG).

Answer – Richard G advised that the restrictions only apply to communications from RRCG.

#### **e) Safety and Security**

Martyn provided an overview of the airport's safety and security which provided data on the various occurrences in 2024 to date.

Question – Could you please provide a little more information on the verbal abuse experienced?

Answer – This was an incident involving an unhappy tenant from one of the hangars that had not read the NOTAM or emails referring to the airfield closing during the AGL works.

Question – Were the incidents of injury/illness from visitors or members of staff?

Answer – These incidents are staff related. Visitor injuries and illnesses are recorded separately.

#### **f) Airspace**

Martyn presented details on the airspace matters providing an overview of the work being undertaken by the team at RCA.

*No questions were received from the Committee.*

#### **4. Airport Development**

Richard Guvyer provided a verbal update on the various Airport Development matters including: -

- An update on the AGL, including that a test flight that took place as part of the requirement for the safety case
- An overview of the various fuel assets was provided, in particular the challenge around lack of supply of assets in the market.
- That action is taking place to increase the offering of managed hangars on site, as there is currently a shortage. This includes developing a feasibility case.

Question – The Chairman asked if there is currently a waiting list for the hangar space?

Answer – Martyn replied: Yes, there is a waiting list and there is always a lot of enquiries about hangar availability, especially during the winter months.

#### **5. Any Other Business**

Paul Coppin asked about the issues with the gate on the western side of the site as this has caused access issues with those accessing the site through this gate for several months. Martyn apologised for the delays in getting these issues resolved and advised that a part has been ordered which it is hoped will fix the gate very soon.

#### **6. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on the 27 March 2024 at 2.30pm.

(The meeting started at 2.30pm  
and ended at 3.21pm)

# Solent Airport Daedalus



Consultative Committee  
Update November 2024

FAREHAM  
BOROUGH COUNCIL



THIS HELICOPTER MUST BE OPERATED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS SPECIFIED IN THE APPROVED HELICOPTER FLIGHT MANUAL. MINIMUM COCKPIT WEIGHT TO 185.  
SELECTIVE PASSENGER LOADING  
WHEN BOTH CREW SEATS ARE OCCUPIED ONLY ONE (1) MID PASSENGER IS PERMITTED UNLESS THERE ARE TWO (2) PASSENGERS.  
WHEN ONLY ONE (1) CREW SEAT IS OCCUPIED NO MORE THAN TWO (2) AFT PASSENGERS ARE PERMITTED UNLESS THERE IS ONE (1) MID PASSENGER.  
REFER TO LOG OR C/W ALLENKATE PASSENGER LOADING FROM SIDE TO SIDE REFER TO THE WEIGHT AND BALANCE FOR CONTINGENT LOADING INFORMATION.

# Item 3 – A

## Airport Operations



**Aeronautical Ground Lighting (AGL)**  
*Installation nearing completion.*  
**Performance Based Navigation (PBN)**  
*Entering into Stage 3 - Stakeholder engagement.*



Senior Airport Fire Officer  
& one new Aerodrome Flight  
Information Service Officer  
Both departments back to full  
compliment of staff.



**Carbon Sustainability & Environmental,  
Social and Governance**  
*Road map - developed to support  
Council Action Plan*



Low Category Aerodrome  
Supervisor (LCAS) course  
Air Ops SAFO Andy Sparshott and  
FF Peter Dodd successful  
attendance at Teeside IFTC



# Community

Successful events keep Solent Airport at the heart of the community and supporting local charities:

## Charity Events

- **Easter fun day 03<sup>rd</sup> April 2024**
  - A modest amount was raised in support for Charlie's Beach Hut charity. Money raised for Charlie's Beach Hut charity.
- **Airport Runway Run**
  - Very popular event raising over £7000 for Naomi House and Jacks Place. 2025 already in planning and has gained UK Athletics affiliation.
- **D-Day 80<sup>th</sup>**
  - This was a joint event with FBC and Monserrat events – c15,000 spectators over two days with RCA managing and organising the aircraft element.
  - 2025 planned LVF 15<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September inc set up and breakdown.
- **Resident Assoc Meetings:**
  - Regular meetings held with several Residents' Associations





# Upcoming Events & Engagement



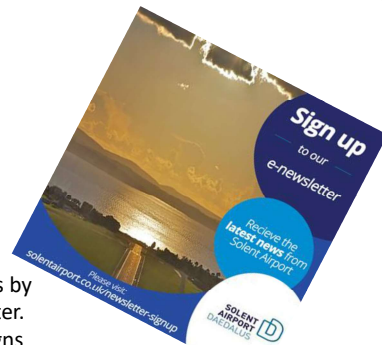
**Christmas Celebrations**  
23<sup>rd</sup> December 2024  
Santa's Grotto, raffle and children's activities.  
All proceeds to Charlies Beach Hut



**Solent Airport 5K**  
For all those runners  
Sunday 22nd June 2025  
Up to 1000 participants



**Solent E-Newsletter**  
Stay up to date with events by Signing up to our newsletter.  
E-shots Operator Campaigns



## Item 3 B – Fuel “Future Proofing”



**Replacement JetA1 fuel bowser plan underway**

**Evaluation of UL91 introduction continues. Includes static tank as well as mobile assets for inter plane refueling. Suppliers commissioned to provide proposals. Est. between 60% and 70% of Avgas operated aircraft can switch to UL91.**

**Self-Serve Capability – Suppliers commissioned to provide quotes for equipment**

# Item 3 C - Performance

## Year on Year Summary



Fixed Wing	Apr - Oct 23	Apr - Oct 24	% Var.
Business/Corp/Charter	695	561	(24%)
Flying School	12075	10676	(13%)
GA	6705	6030	(11%)

Rotary	Apr - Oct 23	Apr - Oct 24	% Var.
Business/Corp/Charter	254	314	19%
Coastguard/SAR	768	853	10%
Flying School	2	46	2200%
GA	418	242	(73%)

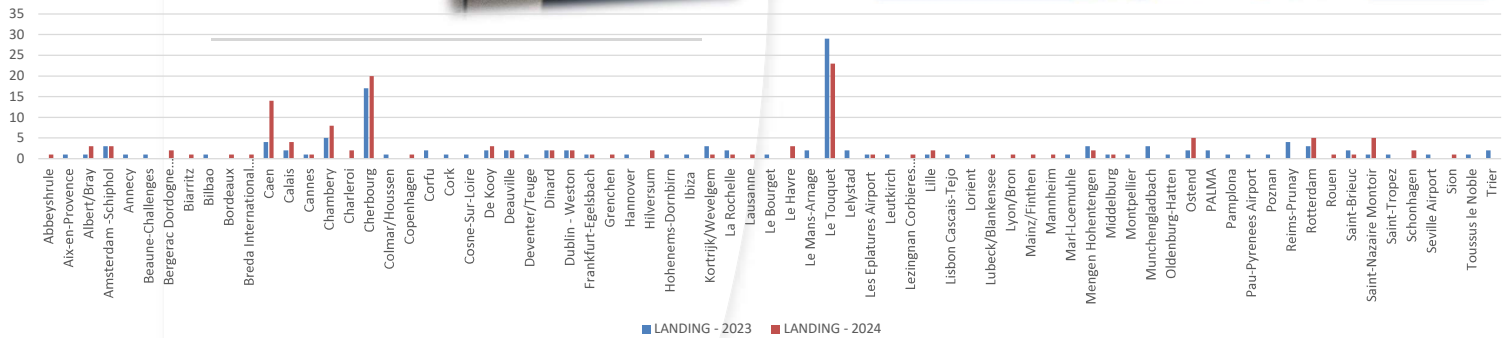
- Weather adversely impacting on traffic levels.
- Despite the shortfall in traffic, revenue up 1% on previous year to date.

Fuel Sales YTD (litres)			
Fuel Type	FY24	FY25	YoY Var.
AvGAS	139,113	131,572	(5%)
JET A1	95,222	167,104	75%
<b>Total</b>	<b>234,335</b>	<b>298,676</b>	<b>27%</b>

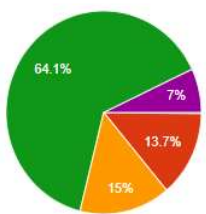
\* based on Year on Year April - September.

# International Movements

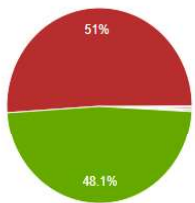
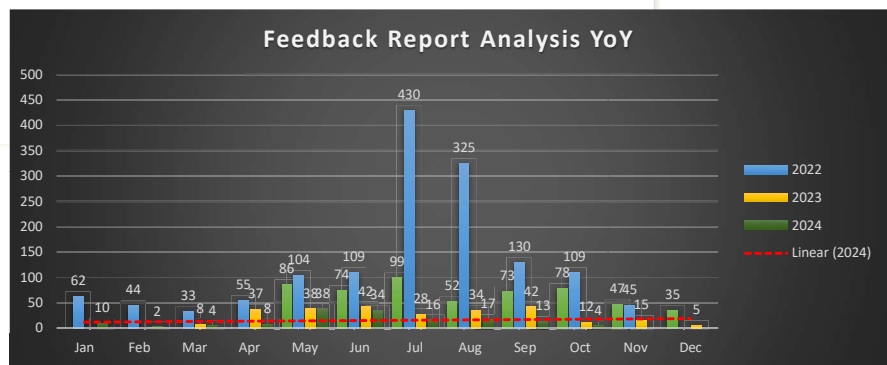
Event	FY24	FY24	Var %
Arrivals	131	135	3%
Departure	137	148	8%



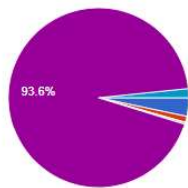
# Item 3 D Complaints & Compliments Monitoring



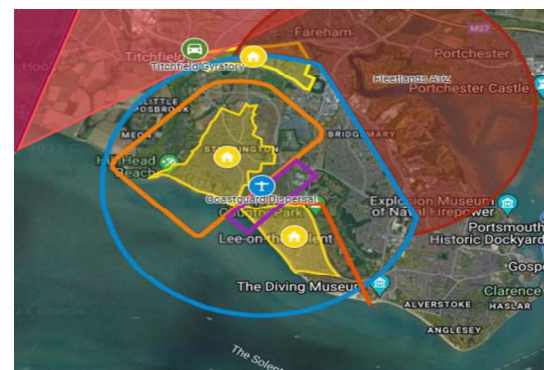
- Unusual Aircraft Question
- Aircraft Noise
- Aircraft Low Flying
- Aircraft Overflight
- Compliment



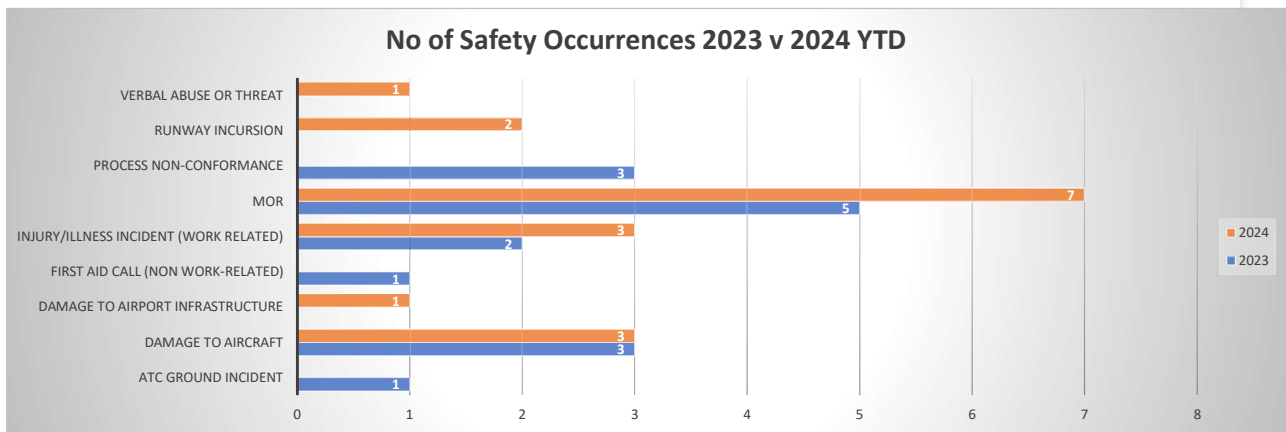
- Stubbington
- Hillhead
- Lee-on-the-Solent (Sot)
- Lee-on-the-Solent (Ea)
- Gosport (West)
- Fareham (East)
- Fareham (West)
- Fareham (South)
- Fareham (North)
- Titchfield



- Mr
- Mrs
- Miss
- Ms
- Residents Assoc
- Other



## Item 3 E -Safety and Security



CAA ATM Audit March 2025.



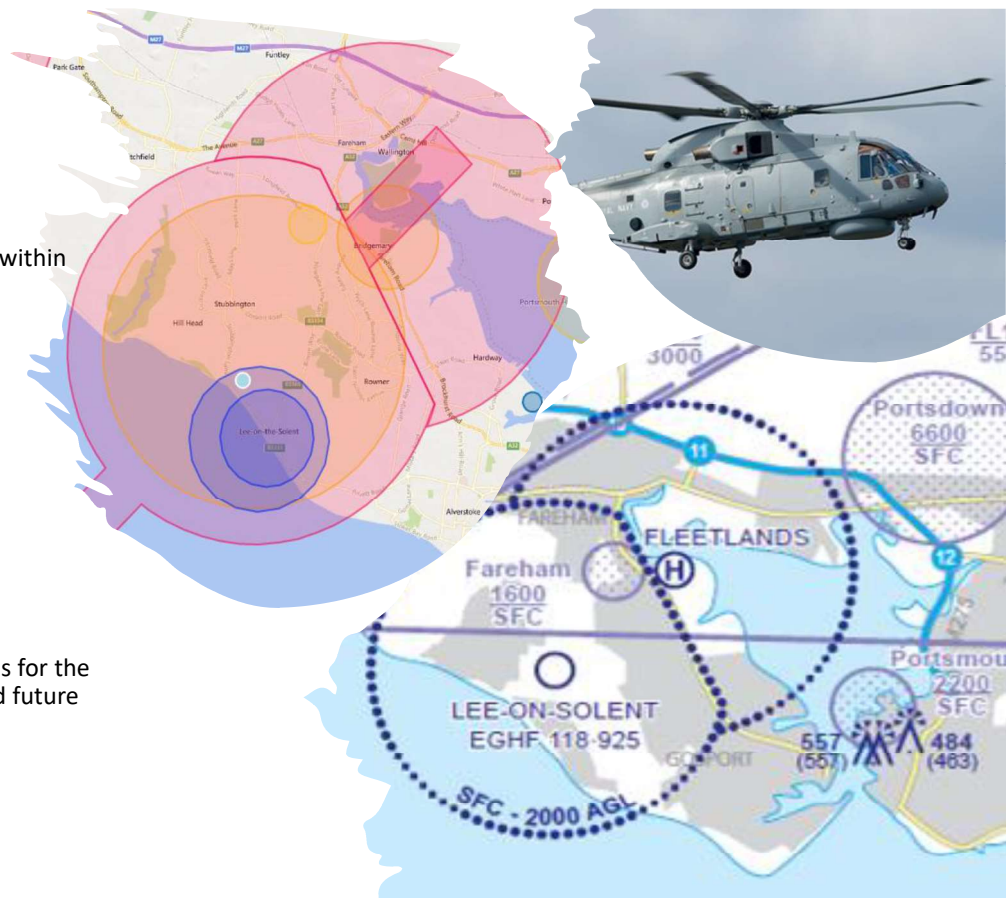
The Emergency Planning Committee meet twice annually. Due to staffing Live Ex delayed and in planning for Q1 2025.



Solent Airport continues to operate safely with occurrence reports being recorded as:  
 2023 = 15  
 2024 = 17  
 \*Apr – Oct 24

## Item 3 F - Airspace

- **Drone Permits**
- Issued for Unmanned Air Systems operations within the Flight Restriction Zone:
  - 2023 = 49
  - 2024 (Up to Nov) = 47
- **Crane Permits**
- Issued (within 6km of the aerodrome):
  - 2023 = 15
  - 2024 (up to Nov) = 24
- **Airspace and ATZ**
- Ongoing discussion with the CAA & Fleetlands for the use of Fleetlands Aerodrome Traffic Zone and future PBN implications.



# Solent Airport Daedalus



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