



FARNBOROUGH AERODROME CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Notes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th July 2006 in the BAE SYSTEMS Park Centre

Present :

Chairman

Mr R. M. Mackay

User representatives :

Mr L. Rayment	TAG Farnborough Airport Ltd
Mr R. Walker	TAG Farnborough airport Ltd
Sir Donald Spiers	TAG Farnborough airport Ltd
Mr P. Hewett	Flight Safety International
Mr M. Khalek	Gama Aviation
Mr C. Way	SBAC

Local Authority Representatives :

Cllr P. Taylor	Rushmoor Borough Council
Cllr P Hutcheson	Hampshire County Council
Cllr M. Hunt	Waverley Borough Council
Cllr C.Pitt	Surrey County Council
Cllr R.Dibbs	Rushmoor Borough Council
Cllr J. Radley	Hart District Council
Cllr J. Bennison	Hart District Council

Local Interests :

Cllr D. Attfield	Farnham Town Council
Mrs D. Knowles	Mytchett, Frimley Green and Deepcut Society
Cllr E. Worrall	Ash Parish Council
Mr G. Marks	Farnborough Airport Residents Association
Mrs M. Shepherd	Farnborough College of Technology
Cllr D. Argent	Crandall Parish Council
Mrs J. Radley	Fleet and Crookham Civic Society

Secretary :

Mr P. Riley

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 There were no apologies for absence.

2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

- 2.1 The Chairman welcomed Cllr Bennison and Mr Hewett to their first meeting of the Committee and noted that Cllrs Tennant (Rushmoor) and Ambler (Hart) had been appointed reserves.
- 2.2 The Chairman referred to a letter received by the Secretary from Surrey Heath Borough Council in which the Council had requested additional representation on the Committee to enable the rural area of Bisley to be covered. Sir Donald Spiers referred to the Constitution of the Committee which stipulated that each interest group represented on the Committee would comprise a fixed number of members in order to preserve an overall balance; if one of the councils wished to increase its membership, another would need to make a reduction. After some discussion, it was agreed that Surrey Heath's request would be refused and the Secretary was asked to write to the Council confirming this decision.

Action : The Secretary .

3. NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16TH MARCH 2006

3.1 Accuracy

On page 2, paragraph 4.1 it was noted that the INM Model referred to is Model 6.1

3.2 Matters arising

In item 4.1 (TAG Information Report) TAG had considered whether the house number of the complainant should be given and had concluded that this should not be done. Mr Walker re-emphasized that any local resident wishing to make a complaint should call the TAG 'hotline'.

Cllr Bennison referred to the flight rules and asked whether they would be discussed at this meeting. TAG noted that this subject had not been requested as an agenda item and, if it was to be considered by the Committee, it would need to be notified at the appropriate time.

With regard to item 8 (website), Mrs Radley said she was pleased to note that the website was now operating normally. She referred to flight deviations over the Fleet area and TAG confirmed that all deviations were reviewed although most of these were under the direction of ATC.

The Secretary referred to item 10 (constitution) and reported that he had written to all member organisations whose representatives had served on the Committee for longer than 2 years asking them to re-confirm their nominations or make new appointments. All the relevant councils had

responded but he had not had replies from FARA and the Mytchett, Frimley Green and Deepcut Society. It was agreed that he would write again to these organisations seeking a clarification of the position.

Action : The Secretary

The Chairman asked whether the Committee was content with the layout of the meeting room. No objections were raised.

4. TAG INFORMATION REPORT

- 4.1 Mrs Radley noted that the number of 50 – 80T movements in January 2006 should be 19 and not 15 as stated in the report . Mr Marks asked if the June 2006 movement figures were available but Mr Walker confirmed that they were not. Mrs Radley asked where the mobile noise monitor would be positioned in the future. Mr Walker said that the monitor would be sited in Manor Road, Farnborough in July 2006. TAG were open to suggestions on where it might go next. Cllr Worrell asked when the monitor would be available. Mr Walker replied that the monitor would be available in September. Mrs Radley said that the figures showing the percentage of runway use were very helpful. She asked whether the arrivals and departures for each runway could be shown in adjacent columns. Mr Walker confirmed that this could be done.
- 4.2 Complaints were discussed. Mrs Radley commented on the improved layout. She asked whether the capacity of the TAG mailbox could be increased. Mr Walker said that this had been done earlier in the day. Mr Marks asked where, in the case of an aircraft which was not on a perceived track, this meant the track that the observer believed the aircraft was on. Mr Walker confirmed that this was the case. Mr Marks asked whether the violator was often the same company. Mr Walker replied that the violator was a different operator in each case. Cllr Argent asked whether TAG could be more precise about the violation eg. aircraft too low. Mr Walker said that TAG would endeavour to do this in future reports.

Action : Mr Walker

- 4.3 Mrs Radley asked about TAG's applications to construct a new hotel and additional hangars at Farnborough. Sir Donald Spiers said that the hotel application was imminent. With regard to the additional hangars, TAG already had outline planning consent for these. Detailed consent would be sought when there was sufficient demand and funding available.

[Post meeting note : An application to develop a 176 bedroom hotel on the former RAF Officers Mess site in Farnborough Road was submitted by Dakota Developments Ltd to Rushmoor BC in late June]

- 4.4 Mr Way mentioned that the Farnborough International Air Show would

commence on 17th July. There would be more exhibitors than at the last show in 2004 and 150 aircraft would be participating. Cllr James Radley asked whether an additional team of air traffic controllers would be brought in for the air show. Mr Walker said that there would be an increase in staffing levels to cope with the extra movements. Traffic patterns and routes would remain the same. TAG will not conduct its own flight operations during the period of the air display. Mr Marks asked where the threshold would be positioned during the show. Mr Walker confirmed that the extended landing distance would apply.

5. TAG FARNBOROUGH AIRPORT LTD APPLICATION TO VARY CONDITION 11 OF PLANNING PERMISSION 99/00658/OUT

- 5.1 The Chairman confirmed that TAG's application to vary its planning consent to permit increased movements at weekends had been refused by Rushmoor BC. Cllr James Radley referred to amendments made by TAG to its application which included commitments to a number of measures which were intended to address some of the consultees concerns. He asked whether these changes were linked directly to the application or whether they would apply whether or not TAG received its consent. Sir Donald Spiers said that, in view of the Council's decision, TAG was reviewing all its options and no further detail could be given at this stage. Cllr Worrell said it was clear that TAG faced a lot of local opposition and suggested that TAG should try and improve its relationship with the community. Sir Donald Spiers repeated that TAG accepted the decision of the Council. Cllr Mrs Hunt asked whether TAG would appeal. Sir Donald Spiers said that an appeal was clearly one of the options open to TAG.

6. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- 6.1 Mr Lambert questioned whether the Committee was properly balanced. The Chairman remarked that some Committee members did not attend regularly and it was open to the Committee to consider whether it wished to change its composition. It was agreed that this subject would be discussed at the next meeting and the Secretary would provide the Committee with the attendance record.

Action : The Secretary

Mr Lambert asked whether the Red Arrows would be the only aerobatic display team at the air show. Mr Way said no other teams will be performing although another team had been invited.

- 6.2 Questions were raised concerning statements made by members of the public at the recent Rushmoor Borough Council meeting at which TAG's application to vary its planning consent had been considered. There was particular concern about a statement made by a person, in support of the application, who was the Chief Executive of a jet charter company. Cllrs Worrall and Taylor said that, in the case of local councils, business relationships had to be declared and they felt that this rule should also apply

to members of the public addressing council meetings. Mr Marks said that he had asked Rushmoor Borough Council to review its speaking rules. Mrs Knowles said that there was a natural suspicion that individuals supporting the application were speaking on behalf of TAG. Cllr James Radley said that the rules applying to councillors should apply equally to members of the public.

- 6.3 Mr Marks raised a question concerning compliance of INM 6.1 (the noise model) with the relevant EU Directive. Mr Walker said that this was a highly technical subject and the Committee was not an appropriate forum to discuss a matter of this kind. He then read out a prepared statement in which it was explained that the EU Directive had not been fully implemented. The INM was available and had been widely used in the UK as the industry standard noise calculation software for airports. At the time that TAG was seeking planning permission for the development at Farnborough, the INM was considered to be the most appropriate tool and, accordingly, this model was used in the planning agreement between TAG and Rushmoor. In practice, INM and ECAC 29 produce results which are identical within the overall expected accuracy of the noise contour map. Cllr Dibbs said that Rushmoor would not change the model. The Council had resolved to place an absolute limit of 28,000 movements per annum at the airport. The noise contours would have no effect on the number of movements. Mr Marks asked for a copy of the CAA audit report on noise compliance. Mr Walker said that TAG were unwilling to release a copy of the report.
- 6.4 Mr Marks raised a further question about the extent to which MOD, diplomatic and Queens Flight operations are deemed to be outside the limit of 28,000 movements per annum. He noted that the planning agreement tied such operations to 'existing levels of activity'. He questioned whether this referred to the levels of such activity at the time when the agreement was signed. Mr Rayment replied by saying that the levels of activity did not, in TAG's view, refer to a numerical limit. He was not aware of the level of activity in 2000. The issue was the range of the relevant activities and not their magnitude. Mr Marks said that Rushmoor were not able to evaluate the level of such activity. Mr Rayment said that the number of such flights was probably in the region of 400 – 500 per annum. Mr Rayment confirmed that the exception applies to all royal families. Cllr Taylor said it was a matter of concern that the planning agreement did not stipulate the number of relevant flights.
- 6.5 A question was raised concerning vortices possibly caused by aircraft. Mr Walker said that vortices were caused by pressure differentials. Most vortices dissipated but they were occasionally detectable. TAG was asked whether any vortex damage had been reported. Mr Walker said that two cases had occurred, one in 2004 and one in 2005. In both cases TAG had paid for the repairs. Mr Khalek asked whether TAG had paid because the damage was caused by aircraft. Mr Walker said that in both cases the damage had occurred when aircraft were flying over the properties.
- 6.6 Cllr Pitt said he had been asked about the definitions of airfield, aerodrome

and airport. Mr Rayment said that airports (such as Farnborough) offered customs and immigration facilities and could therefore handle international flights.

7. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Committee will take place on 16th November 2006 and the next following meeting will be on 15th March 2007

P. Riley

Secretary – Farnborough Aerodrome Consultative Committee

14th July 2006

ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES

09/08/06

WEBSITE

The Chairman thanked Mr Norman Lambert for keeping the FACC website in good order. Following his resignation from the Committee, it had been agreed that Mr Lambert would continue to operate the website. Mr Walker echoed the Chairman's remarks and confirmed that TAG had agreed to provide funding for the website under Mr Lambert's management. It was agreed that the website address would, in future, be quoted on FACC letterheads and on the agendas for meetings.