

GLASGOW PRESTWICK AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
190th QUARTERLY MEETING HELD ON 10th March 2017,
Meeting Room 1, GLASGOW PRESTWICK AIRPORT

Present

Gavin Money	Chair
George Smith	Co-opted Member (Vice Chair)
James Riach	Prestwick South Community Council (Treasurer)
Eddie Allison	Orbital Access
Jim McCall	Co-opted Member
Councillor Jim McClung	Dumfries & Galloway Council
Councillor Robert McDill	East Ayrshire Council
Councillor Hugh Hunter	South Ayrshire Council
Richard Searle	Passenger Representative
Helen McBride	Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce & Industry

In Attendance

Ron Smith	CEO GPA
Nigel Wallace	Secretary to GPACC

Apologies

Councillor Irene Oldfather	North Ayrshire Council
Councillor Bill Grant	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
William McAlpine	Passenger Representative
Annique Armstrong	Visit Scotland
Len Houston	Royal Aeronautical Society
Calum McPhail	South Ayrshire Council
Steven Herriot	SW Trans/Dumfries & Galloway Council
Councillor Philip Saxton	South Ayrshire Council
Inspector Paul Seditas	Strathclyde Police
Sharon Hodgson	East Ayrshire Council
Andrew McNair	North Ayrshire Council

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed those in attendance to the 190th Quarterly meeting of Glasgow Prestwick Airport Consultative Committee. The Chair introduced new member Helen McBride, from the Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Helen will be able to attend her first full meeting in June.

2. Apologies

The apologies received were noted.

3. Minutes of the 189th Meeting held on 13th January 2017

Minutes from the last meeting were approved as read.

4. Matters Arising

Re-engaging with Membership: The Chairman letters to members to be circulated for comment next week.

Disability Forum representative to be identified to become a member of GPACC.

GPACC Website: Website Content had been forwarded to Ron Smith. This was in hand and a draft would be circulated.

Invitation to Keith Brown: Ron Smith had provided KB's secretary with 3 GPACC Meeting dates.

Drones: (see Agenda Item 6 below)

5. Chief Executive's Report

Ron Smith, CEO, updated the Committee as follows:

Business Strategy

Final approval of the 5 Year Strategic Plan by the Airport Company and HoldCo Board. It is hoped that it will be in the public domain prior to election purdah. The launch will be at Holyrood.

.

Physical Improvements

Work to the first floor of the terminal including toilet refurbishment has been completed.
Station revamp including new lift and escalator improvements.
Departure Lounge airside is being refurbished.
Slot machine area will be removed.
Possibility of new build programme aimed at Aerospace and Space.

Activity

Marked improvement in military business – 12% up year on year.
Passenger Numbers year to March 2017 - 660,000
Projected passenger numbers to March 2018 – 710,000 to 750,000
Freight tonnage year to March 2017 – 115,000 tons
Projected freight tonnage to March 2017 – 125,000 tons
Significant increase in floorspace occupancy with lets of Chevron Hangar and Transit House.

Windfarms & Radar Solution

As reported previously the radar tower and new antennae as the first phase of the windfarm tolerant radar solution is now implemented. The June meeting of GPACC will include a visit to the new facility.

Airspace Change

As reported at the January meeting GPA is currently undergoing an Airspace Change process in conjunction with NATs. This is an open process requiring a public consultation process which is being undertaken by external consultants. The process may include changes needed for Spaceport. The process is being supported by the three Ayrshire Councils.

Heathrow Expansion

GPA discussions with Heathrow are continuing with a meeting with Heathrow's Expansion Supply Chain Director scheduled for next week. GPA are on the short list to

be a Scottish supply partner to support the Heathrow expansion. Other sites in Scotland are being considered but it is understood that none have air access. Such a supply hub could provide in the region of 1,000 jobs. Good rail, road and air connectivity and inter-connectivity are vital for the hub and key criteria in the selection process. GPA are very well placed in relation to all these criteria and available land and the marshalling yards at Falkland Railhead have the spare capacity to accommodate such a development. Road and rail links to Cairnryan can provide access for key suppliers in Northern Ireland

Spaceport

Spaceport continues to progress. GPA and Orbital Access are working on a 'Bid' for Space Agency Funding for launch site.

Discussion

The impact on GPA was questioned in the light of Ryanair's decision to give Edinburgh a significant number of new flights. RS explained this was part of a wider move by Ryanair to move to hub airports. However the skill base of Aero Engineers/Technicians is a major draw to GPA for Ryanair. GPA has a target of 2.4m passengers as a first milestone. The strategy is to move away from only sun routes and to seek and protect other operators new services.

It was noted that the issue of parking in Prestwick Town is becoming a problem again.

6. DfT Drones Consultation.

At the January meeting of GPACC it was agreed that Eddie Allison prepare a response on the Drones Consultation. This had been done and had been circulated to members prior to the meeting for comment and amendment. Members thanked Eddie for his thorough and authoritative response which was formally approved for submission to DfT. The deadline for responses to the consultation is the 15th March 2017 and it was agreed that the Secretary submit the response as approved.

In addition Members formally endorsed UKACCs joint response on behalf of all ACCs. A suggested amendment to add Local Authorities as well as Town and Parish Councils to the text was incorporated into the final submission.

7. GPACC Review

As reported previously at the September meeting the Chairman had proposed that a review of the purpose and role of GPACC with a view to a degree of refocusing. While recognising the need for GPACC to remain independent of the airport and to fulfil its statutory role under DfT Guidance as a "Critical Friend" there was an opportunity to re-align priorities of GPACC with GPA's.

As agreed at the January meeting the Chairman re-presented an outline summary of what he had identified as GPA's 'Main Drivers for Growth', the 'Priority Actions' to achieve that growth and the how success would be 'Measured'. The main thrust of the Chair's proposal is to identify what would be required to re-align and better dovetail GPACC's priorities with those of GPA. Members were asked to consider the 'Strategic Drivers for Growth' identified and reflect on how these could and should be ranked or prioritised.

8. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer had circulated his statement prior to the Meeting. GPACC had a current balance of £7,810.31 at December 31st 2016.

9. AOCB

None raised

9. Visit to the new Radar.

It was agreed that the visit to the new radar should take place after the June Meeting

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Consultative Committee is Friday 9th June 2017.

Nigel Wallace, Secretary, GPACC

Contact: nigelswallace@hotmail.com