

GLASGOW PRESTWICK AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
194th QUARTERLY MEETING HELD ON 20th March 2018,
Meeting Room 1, GLASGOW PRESTWICK AIRPORT

Present

Gavin Money	Chair
George Smith	Co-opted Member (Vice Chair)
James Riach	Prestwick South Community Council (Treasurer)
Jim McCall	Co-opted Member(Cargo)
Eddie Allison	Orbital Access
William McAlpine	Passenger Representative
Helen McBride	Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Jim Johnstone	South Ayrshire Council
Councillor John McGhee	East Ayrshire Council
Inspector Mark Stirling	Police Scotland

In Attendance

Stewart Adams	GPA CEO
Nigel Wallace	Secretary to GPACC

Apologies

Councillor Philip Saxton	South Ayrshire Council
Councillor Andrew Giusti	Dumfries and Galloway Council
Annique Armstrong	Visit Scotland
Richard Searle	Passenger Representative
Douglas Kirkpatrick	SW Trans/Dumfries & Galloway Council
Sharon Hodgson	East Ayrshire Council
Andrew McNair	North Ayrshire Council
Councillor Donald Lees Reid	North Ayrshire Council

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed those present to the 194th Quarterly meeting of Glasgow Prestwick Airport Consultative Committee. In particular, the Chair welcomed Councillor John McGhee to his first meeting.

2. Apologies

The apologies received were noted.

3. Minutes of the 193rd Meeting held on 10th January 2018

Minutes from the last meeting were approved as read.

4. Matters Arising

Website to be updated for new Councillor Members.

5. Chief Executive's Report

Management Changes

No Management changes have taken place since the last meeting.

Commercial Activity

Ryanair announcement regarding reduction of services from Glasgow has no immediate impact on GPA in the short term. There have been slight reductions in the winter schedule. Not making much progress with passenger numbers.

Jim McCall joined the Business Development team in February on a short-term contract to assist with Cargo development. Cargo generates good revenue per flight and is an important part of GPA's revenue stream.

Jim's contacts have been very useful with a number of meetings having already taken place with carriers and freight forwarders.

The potential new summer service to Cyprus did not materialise unfortunately due to the operator having to change crews at GPA given the length of the overall duty period and late-night timing of the flight. The operator has indicated that the financials stacked up and that they may have UK based crews in place for S19 and will revisit.

We continue to make contact with various operators at a high level but uncertainty regarding Brexit and other issues such as APD are hindering progress. Discussions with Eastern European airlines but they anticipate difficulties competing with Ryanair.

Space Agency

A delegation including Richard Jenner from GPA and representatives of Transport Scotland visited Virgin during late February.

Positive meeting held with potential partners which cannot be discussed due NDA's in place.

Heathrow Hub

A delegation including the Chairman of LHR plan to visit all short-listed sights within a short time frame. At present we do not have dates for the GPA visit.

2018/19 Budget

The Executive team presented the budget to both the OpsCo and HoldCo Boards. SG asked to fund for the next 12 months

Both Boards accepted the budget as proposed.

In terms of revenue Passenger operations produce very little. The main contributions are from freight, other aviation and property with car parking and concessions making a smaller but significant contribution. GPA have managed to negotiate a new deal with Air BP.

Diversions

Glasgow Prestwick Airport remained open during the inclement weather and handled 27 diversions and over 3,700 passengers from a number of operators including Emirates. Very positive feedback from passengers. Scotland closed but GPA open.

Emergency Planning Exercise

Glasgow Prestwick Airport advised local residents they may have seen increased multi-agency activity in and around the airport on Wednesday 14 March between 1800hrs and 2200hrs as an emergency scenario to test response plans was simulated. The scenario involved a Ryanair crash on the road short of the runway.

The Airport assured the public that there was no cause for alarm and that customers were not affected. The Airport remained open and operational throughout.

GPA worked with Police Scotland, Scottish Fire & Rescue, Scottish Ambulance Service, South Ayrshire Council, NHS Ayrshire & Arran, Border Force and Community Resilience Groups and a number of other agencies to ensure that plans, policies and procedures all worked in practice and demonstrated joint emergency readiness. CAA oversee the exercise and comment.

6. Airspace Change

GPA are ready to carry out the changes. CAA are now waiting to implement Glasgow, Edinburgh and Glasgow Prestwick Airspace Changes simultaneously.

7. Spaceport

Space Bill passed last week. All press coverage was referencing GPA rather than New Quay. GPA remain very hopeful and certainly in any objective assessment offers the best potential. It will be early 2020 before GPA can apply for a licence. Licencing will involve a Spaceport licence, an operator's licence and a licence for each flight. The Space Agency has not yet confirmed grant funding. Although the funding bid is not critical it would be extremely helpful. Spaceport could involve 4,500 jobs at the Scottish level. Main jobs advantage for South West Scotland is expected to be in the aerospace sector. This is something which Keith Brown, at the last GPACC meeting, confirmed when he referred to GPA as a Centre of Excellence for Aerospace. SG will retain ownership of the runway. SG have confirmed their support for GPA to UK Government. Nothing in the Budget for Spaceport, except for consultancy.

8. Heathrow Expansion - Logistics Hub

Heathrow does not yet have permission for a third runway. However as part of the gearing up process Heathrow are planning visits to 60+ potential logistics sites which will facilitate construction in the event of the runway being given the go-ahead. No dates yet from CE of Heathrow for the visit involving GPA. All 3 Ayrshire Councils are involved,

with South Ayrshire taking the lead. MOU with SG guarantees one logistics site in Scotland

9. Station Improvements

Jim Johnstone informed the meeting that an £8m bid for a station rebuild had been included in an Ayrshire Growth Deal yet to be agreed with the UK Government. This is one of 6 projects connected to GPA including:- Spaceport; Aerospace; Low cost energy infrastructure as well as the station. No mention in the recent Budget.

Keith Brown is meeting with David Mundell, Scottish Secretary, on Growth Deal

10. GPACC Insurance

The issue of whether ACCs had/needed insurance to cover their activities had been raised in discussions with other ACCs. GPACC owns no property to be insured but the Committee were asked to consider whether there was a need for public liability insurance to cover possible injury to members or visitors. It was suggested that as far as it was needed the simplest solution may be for GPACC to be covered by GPA's insurance. Stewart Adams undertook to investigate and report back.

11. ACC Data Protection

New EU General Data Protection Legislation comes into force in 25th May 2018. Replaces 1998 Data Protection Act. The key points of note for the Committee are: that consent must be active (eg signing Attendance Register); there is a right of access; and a right to be forgotten (ie data to be deleted eg member contact details).

12. AOCB

It was noted that Edinburgh lose 2nd runway at the end of March. Glasgow only has one. GPA has a strategic resilience role with 2 runways.

There is an opportunity for GPA to yet again present the case for Royal Mail services, currently based at Edinburgh. There are advantages for Royal Mail. GPA could handle the loading for Royal Mail very cost effectively and is open 24/7, 365 days a year.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Consultative Committee is Tuesday, 5th June 2018 at 2.00 pm

Nigel Wallace, Secretary, GPACC
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