**GLASGOW AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the 191st Quarterly Meeting held in the Sanderling, Glasgow Airport

on Monday 23 January 2023 at 10.00 am

**Present**

[ ] Chairman

[ ] Vice Chairman

[ ] Inverclyde Council

[ ] Glasgow City Council

[ ] Police Scotland

[ ] SPAA

[ ] North Lanarkshire Council

[ ] Passenger Representative

[ ] NATS

[ ] West Dunbartonshire Council

[ ] Argyll & Bute Council

[ ] ABTA

[ ] AOC

[ ] NATS

[ ] East Dunbartonshire Council

[ ] Director of Communications and Sustainability - AGS Airports

[ ] Terminal Compliance Manager – Glasgow Airport

[ ] Airside Operations Manager - Glasgow Airport

[ ] Secretary

**Apologies**

[ ] Passenger Representative

[ ] Ground Operations – Glasgow Airport

[ ] Inverclyde Council

[ ] Operations Director – Glasgow Airport

[ ] Security Operations Compliance Manager –

Glasgow Airport

The Chairman welcomed all to the 191st GACC meeting and was delighted to see so many people in attendance.

The Chairman advised that Mr Jack Richmond, former Chairman of the GACC, had passed away recently. Mr Richmond was Chairman for over 40 years and had been involved with the airport for a great many years. The Chairman had only just heard about Mr Richmond’s death but agreed to circulate further information when he knew more.

**Minutes of the previous meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 October 2022 were circulated. The Minutes were agreed and an abbreviated version would be put on the website following this meeting. The Chairman said he would also advise which organisations have been represented on this committee.

**Matters arising**

The Chairman referred to the excellent presentation from [ ] on Noise and Insulation at the October meeting and he was hopeful she would return with an update in July.

**Traffic Report and General Update**

The Chairman congratulated [ ] on the early arrival of his new grandchild and thanked [ ] and [ ] for standing in for [ ] at short notice.

There has been a significant increase in Q4 from last year. We are happy and where we want to be. There were 6.5m passengers at the end of 2022 which is what was hoped and expected. We are hoping to be around 8.5m this year but it will likely take us to 2025 to get back to pre COVID levels.

[ ] asked if the airport had noticed an increase in long haul travel compared with two to three years ago. Mr P Scott advised that demands are high for the Middle East. A lot of US routes have gone to Edinburgh, a lot of people are flying o US via Heathrow or Dublin. We would like to get a direct flight from Glasgow and we are working on it. It is likely Emirates will come back slightly earlier than originally planned. Jet2 will base its 7th aircraft from May. WestJet has now gone to Edinburgh. There is a shortage of planes.

[ ] asked if Ryanair might return to Glasgow. [ ] said they are continuing to fly from Prestwick.

The summer season starts on 1 April.

***Airside***

We finished the year with 7 high/medium bird strikes. There has been a massive increase in the number of birds throughout COVID. Culling of birds is a last resort. The team will always use other methods first to get birds to move. Birds in transient are the most risk and are a danger to aircraft. We are currently seeing an increase in the number of geese. Checks are carried out regularly and so far we have managed to control them very well over the years.

[ ] made reference to an audit carried out at the airport by Wild Life Management and suggested the committee be informed of this. [ ] went on to advise that Wild Life Management carried out an audit going through all our control measures. He was very pleased to advise that we came back as industry leading. He feels we are doing everything possible to make sure we have a safe airfield.

***Noise***

[ ] advised that all enquiries regarding noise have been dealt with and are below the decibel limit. He believes that people have got used to fewer flights during COVID and a lot of the ‘noise increase’ is most likely due to the increase in travel.

The Chairman pointed out that it is possible to track flights in real time if anyone is interested in doing so.

The Chairman said there has been an increase in the number of routes. Moving into the summer we expect some complaints because there will be more flights. No changes have been made to the routes aircraft take and [ ] confirmed it is unlikely we will see these changes until 2026/27.

[ ] said he was looking forward to getting the insulation sorted. The Chairman said [ ] will attend the July meeting and talk about the Noise Mitigation scheme. The airport will be looking at different schemes and whether insulation is the best way of dealing with this. If anyone has any questions on this the Chairman asked them to fire them in to him or the Secretary so that we can look at this in advance of the July meeting.

[ ] suggested that, if there was going to be an issue with the A380, would they consider any community engagement? [ ] said we could signpost information on the A380.

***Runway* *incursions***

There was nothing to report in the last three months. The Chairman congratulated the team and NATS on this tremendous result. [ ] said safety is a constant and is very important to the airport. [ ] said there are probably around 100 safety reports per quarter. We are probably the only airport of this size to have flying clubs and general aviation.

There has been a lot of work done on pavements in recent months. Winter Ops – nothing major so far.

[ ] advised that the Job Fair held recently was very well attended and was a roaring success. Although people could attend the Fair they could also apply for positions online. [ ] confirmed that the airport is still recruiting for the summer season. *It was later advised the reason the Jobs Fair ended late afternoon was due to lack of buy in from other sources and additional manpower could not be justified.*

***Security***

We have completed a successful trial of the next generation security equipment. Queuing has improved. [ ] suggested the committee might look at this new equipment and [ ] agreed to speak to [ ] regarding this.

***Disruptive Passengers***

The Chairman commented that the number was higher than he would have expected. [ ] said that it can be pretty low level but once there is police intervention it is recorded. Campus Watch continues and it is a team effort to ensure things don’t go too far. [ ] ran through the various stages of how this works and how staff in bars and restaurants and the airlines get involved in an effort to keep things under control. The police are kept appraised at all times and will get involved if required.

***Retail reports***

Some changes in the terminal with new menus coming in and a couple of new places starting up soon. The Chairman commented that the quality of food has to improve at the airport before it gets busier.

***FlightPath Fund***

[ ] said there were five meetings of the FlightPath Fund held last year culminating in a celebration event on 2 December. This was well attended by beneficiaries and local councillors and there was great engagement with local communities. He confirmed that £100,000 was being given to the FlightPath Fund this year.

The Chairman made reference to people not carrying cash much nowadays and asked if the airport was doing anything about this in terms of money for the Globes. [ ] advised that this had been discussed at the last FlightPath meeting and options were being considered. *It was later confirmed that* [ ] *is looking in to Touch Pay/QR code methods of payment for the Globes.*

**Sustainability Update**

[ ] gave an update on Sustainability. The Chairman thanked [ ] for this very helpful presentation.

**Any Other Business**

[ ] advised that he attended a meeting with the Leader of Glasgow Council. The Clyde Metro needs to start now.

**Date of Next Meeting**

The Chairman thanked everyone who had attended this meeting. The next one will be held on Monday 24 April 2023. He will continue to send out weekly updates. If anyone has any comments on anything please feed them back to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman or the Secretary.