

REDHILL AERODROME CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

NOTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT 10.00 A.M ON THE 11TH JUNE 2016 AT NUTFIELD MEMORIAL HALL, HIGH STRET, NUTFIELD

PRESENT:

Committee Members

Terry Pollard (Chairman), Jim Blackmore, Don Butler, Wayne Clark ,David Cullen, Ian Frow, Patricia Glenn, Paul Murray, Debbie Vickers, Philip Wright, and Helena Windsor,

Members of the public*

Chris Bashford, Mike Greenwood, J. Johnson, Kent Sandiford, David Dowden, Carol Ledger, Robin Hodgson, Philip Lloyd, Gill Scott-Jones.

*Based on the signed attendance sheet.

1. INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. He gave apologies from members of the Committee, namely Ann Bartaby, Chris Hoskins and Paul Potter.

The Chairman advised that the annual report had been circulated and any questions would be addressed under item 4 of the agenda.

2. ADDRESS BY PHILIP WRIGHT, MANAGER OF REDHILL AERODROME LIMITED (RAL)

Philip gave a progress report on the refurbishment and development of the site. He explained that:

- A planning application had been submitted to replace the Old Main block, which had been destroyed by a fire in 2015.
- Improvement works had taken place on the licensed taxiway, which included re-surfacing 500m of perimeter track.
- Plans were underway to replace the runway lighting.
- Work would take place on the fuel depot to replace fuel tanks and other minor improvements.
- Additional parking would be provided.

Philip confirmed that the Aerodrome had tried to improve links with the local Community and made reference to a meeting held with the Parish Councils and local interest groups. In addition they had facilitated a meeting between residents and pilots to enable both parties to discuss their points of view.

He also advised that the Aerodrome had hosted some community events including:-

- 19th May 2016 – Royal Aeronautical Society –‘Cool Aeronautics’ event to encourage children to take an interest in flying, engineering and space.
- 3rd July 2016 – Caterham Rotary Half Marathon & 10k run

Philip explained that the Aerodrome were looking to re-locate the National Police Air Service and Air Ambulance to a more central location on the Aerodrome. It was envisaged that this would still remain within the same cluster of buildings but a more North Western side of the site.

3. ADDRESS FROM PARISH COUNCILLOR WAYNE CLARK - SALFORD & SIDLOW PARISH COUNCIL (REPRESENTING LOCAL RESIDENTS)

Wayne introduced himself and explained his journey as a member of the Redhill Aerodrome Consultative Committee (RACC). He welcomed the more recent approach by Ann Bartaby and felt that the communication had opened up. He stressed the importance of ensuring the Aerodrome took local concerns into account.

He acknowledged the attendance at RACC meetings by Aerodrome Operators had been poor and wished to encourage them to attend in the future to enable both residents and pilots to understand the constraints put upon them.

Moving forward he wished to foster more open dialogue between the committee and the Aerodrome, but acknowledged that parties may not always agree.

4. QUESTIONS / VIEWS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

	Questions / views from the audience	Responses (from Philip Wright)
1.	Paul Murray - The unlicensed Runway 07/25 does it have the same CAA regulations as a licensed Code taxiway?	The CAA don't regulate unlicensed sites. They do have guidelines for unlicensed sites, but these are not mandatory.
2.	<p>Paul Murray – Raised concerns that he had not been informed about the suggested moves of the Police and Air Ambulance prior to the meeting.</p> <p>He explained that he favoured the move.</p> <p>He sought clarification if the Air Ambulance would be relocating from the Aerodrome and if planning permission had been approved at the new site.</p>	<p>It was explained that the plans were in the early stages and the Committee would be kept updated of the progress.</p> <p>It was understood that the Planning application was still underway with the new site for the Air Ambulance Service.</p>
3.	Councillor Jim Blackmore – Prior to the improvement works, did the licensed taxiway fail to meet the CAA standards?	Yes. It had been built prior to the Second World War and the surface had undulations and gathered water. He went on to explain that the CAA don't inspect the Aerodrome but carry out an audit.
4.	Crab Hill Lane – Resident. Aircraft continue to overfly her house, is it inexperienced pilots?	It is not possible to irradiate mistakes. Movements will increase and decrease depending on the weather. We are trying to encourage the training Inspector pilots to attend the Committee meetings to assist with improved engagement.
5.	Has the Aerodrome revenue increased?	No, it has decreased due to the decrease in helicopter movements.
6.	Have the improvements to the taxiway altered the movements?	Discussion took place surrounding the recording of touch and go movements. It was explained that the level of movements were weather dependent and if the flying clubs had bookings the movements would intensify.

	Questions / views from the audience	Responses (from Philip Wright)
7.	Peter Talbot – Request for helicopters to increase the height at which they fly at.	NPAS and Air Ambulance have both been asked to increase the height at which they fly at. It was explained that this request had been put to both organisations but could be requested again.
8.	<p>Helena Windsor – A resident had reported increased helicopter noise on Thursday 9th June. She enquired if there had been a training exercise taking place.</p> <p>She explained that she had requested the resident to report the noise complaint directly to the Aerodrome using the agreed complaints procedure.</p>	Philip explained that NPAS had indeed had a helicopter training from a different base but this had only been till 8.00pm.If the resident could provide exact details about the complaint the Aerodrome would carry out an investigation.

5. CLOSING REMARKS

The Chairman expressed thanks to the Consultative Committee for their support over the year and to Julie Porter who provided administrative services to the Committee on behalf of TDC.

He closed the meeting at 10.39a.m.