

COVENTRY AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 1600 hours.

Present:	Mr Peter Burns MBE (PB)	Chairman
	Mr Ron Walker (RW)	Based operator Midland Air Training and Airpark Flight Centre and vice-chairman of the CACC.
	Cllr Roger Horsfall (RH)	Baginton Parish Council
	Mr John Astle (JA)	Stoneleigh & Ashow and Bubbenhall Parish Council
	Mr Alan Yates (AY)	Campaign to Protect Rural England

In Attendance from Coventry Airport:

Mr Richard Pace (RP)	Coventry Airport Oversight Director
Mr Andy Hixon (AH)	Coventry Airport, Operations Accountable Manager
Mr Steve Lindon (SL)	Senior AFISO
Mrs Tracy Sweeney (TS)	Quality System Manager (Scribe)

Absent/ Apologies:

Cllr Ram Lakha (RL)	Coventry City Council
Larry Coltman (LC)	Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce

1. Welcome and Introductions:

The meeting was declared open at 16:00 hours by the Chairman.

2. Apologies:

Cllr Ram Lakha, Coventry City Council
Larry Coltman, Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest:

There were no declarations of conflict of interest raised.

4. Minutes of meeting on 16th May 2023:

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

5. Matters Arising:

RW: Would like to adjust; the tenants and users meeting is being restructured as opposed to dissolved.

PB: Remembering our friend Peter Jones who sadly passed in the summer. He will be sorely missed as will his passion for aviation and Coventry Airport.

6. Airport Update:

RP: Not much has changed since our last meeting. Aeros relocated some of their operation to Wellesbourne, so their level of flying has significantly reduced.

There has been increased movements from other based operators and we had our highest number of visitors in October with 668.

Going into the winter months we are seeing a drop off in movements due to poorer weather.

Fuel uplift is steady with aircraft from other airfields picking up fuel here.

Night flying commenced at the end of October and will run until February, so the operating hours are 0900 – 1800 local Tuesday to Friday.

We are still a loss-making business, but we do have new enquiries coming in frequently wanting to occupy offices and hangars.

Gigafactory: James couldn't be here today, but he has given an update;

Discussions are taking place with potential investors in respect of the West Midlands Gigafactory opportunity. Some discussions are further ahead than others as per recent press release, but also involve government and regional stakeholders in wider conversations for investment into UK. The West Midlands Combined Authority are also progressing the application for the site to be granted Investment Zone status.

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RW: Landing fees are competitive with the likes of Wellesbourne and Leicester however charges for Touch and Go's are not. Leicester offers a 1-hour circuit booking deal which is a set fee for the hour regardless of the number of touch and go's etc.

RP: We are looking at different pricing models therefore this could be something we can change but we need to be aware not to undermine the revenue. Look at getting Leicester fees and charges included in the airfield comparisons.

PB: Is there a Tenants and users committee update?

RW: Prior to the meeting in May, an ex-tenant stated that there were no terms of reference, no mandate, and no AGM. There is no longer a chair or vice-chair nor a secretary. Sheila Fennel is the treasurer. Unsure what is going to happen going forward.

7. Any Other Business:

PB: Will there be a representative from WDC now Trevor Wright is no longer a councillor?

TS: There are replacements in place, and they are notified of the meetings.

8. Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held in May. An invite will be issued with a confirmation date.

The meeting was closed by the chairman at 16:45

Thank you for your attendance.