

Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board

Minutes of Ninth Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd May 2018
at the Marriott Hotel, 111 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh
Commencing at 6.30pm

Present: Lindsay Cole (LC) (Chair)

Louise Gunstensen, (LG), Dalgety Bay and Hillend CC; ; Helena Paul (HP), Blackness Area CC / Edinburgh Airport Watch; Ray Godfree (RG), Ratho District CC; Andrew Watt (AW), Dalkeith and District CC and Midlothian Federation CC; Christophe Miremont (CM), Ecclesmachan resident; Pippa Plevin (PP), Uphall CC; Liz Scobie (LS), Uphall CC; Merv Archibald (MA), Blackness Area CC; Tom Leatherland (TL), Limekilns and Charleston CC; Ray Flint (RF), Kinghorn CC; Stefan Slater (SS), Cramond & Barnton CC; Angela Wallace, Broxburn CC

The following joined during the meeting: Ronnie McLeod, Bathgate CC; Billy Johnston, Bathgate CC; Owen Griffiths, Vice Convenor Bo'ness CC

In attendance: Gordon Robertson (GR), EAL
Elaine Hill, Minutes

Apologies: Vic Garrad (VG) Kirknewton CC; Adam Cumming (AC), Cramond Association; Bruce Finlayson (BF), North Queensferry CC; Gary Allanach (GAL), Winchburgh CC; John Kelly (JK); Bob Brough (BB), Cramond CC

		Action
1.	<p>Introductions:</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Angela Wallace who was attending her first meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>Approval of previous minutes:</p> <p>GR informed the meeting that he had emailed some suggested amendments to the draft minutes to HP following the distribution of the draft minutes. HP confirmed that she had not had time to incorporate these but that she felt the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting and no other emails had been received from members regarding this. GR explained that he had not asked for anything to be removed from the minutes but that they reflect more accurately the detailed responses he had given at the meeting. He also raised concerns regarding the tone of the minutes and them being published on a website in their current form. It was contended that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the EANAB meeting. GR also requested that it be minuted that should it be decided not to incorporate his requested amendments then he did not believe that the minutes were a fair and accurate record of the meeting. It was agreed that HP would circulate GR's email dated 24 April 2018 to the Board members to decide whether to incorporate the requested additions in the draft minutes.</p>	HP

3.	Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes	
3.1	It was agreed to go through the List of Agreed Actions to check progress. An updated list is attached to these minutes. The following points of note were made:	
3.2	Item 16: LG to forward copy of ToR and CoC documents to Bob Brough.	LG
3.3	Item 32: Membership and Legal Status of Board GR reported that EAL's current liability insurance does not cover EANAB but EAL has agreed to add this to their insurance. EAL will be doing the same for EACC. This is currently being progressed by EAL and their insurers and GR will circulate the details when available to ensure that they are acceptable to the Board.	GR
3.4	Item 29: Claim that Cramond had been promised two votes on the Board will be discussed at the next meeting.	LC
3.5	Item 37: Invite ANS to future meeting It was noted that ANS have taken over the Edinburgh Control Tower from NATS and have already intimated they would be happy to attend meetings or for the Board to visit the tower. GR suggested that ANS be invited to attend every meeting as they would be best placed to cover any technical queries arising from the data being analysed by To70.	LC
3.6	GR confirmed that EAL had met with the subgroup to agree the scope of work being carried out by To70. The subgroup had agreed the contract with To70 and asked EAL to progress this through their procurement process. It was intended to get the data to To70 by the end of this week with a view to them commencing their work week commencing 7 May 2018. If members had any questions to be fed into ANS these should be passed to HP for collating. It was suggested that ANS be invited to the August meeting.	All/HP
3.7	It was noted that ANS are responsible for the local Edinburgh area up to 7000ft. NATS continue to operate en route from Prestwick and have control over 7000ft. GR confirmed that approximately 75% of NATS staff had been TUPE'd over to ANS and that the previous Edinburgh station head who had left NATS to work with ANS is now back at Edinburgh.	
3.8	Item 38: Quality of Life Sub-Group AW requested that data on continuous descent and climb be obtained. It was also suggested that research be obtained on the impact of increased flight frequency over an area, longer periods of noise that will affect areas further out from the airport, and the impact of lower background noise levels, as well as night-time flying. It was also suggested that a more dispersed pattern of flights may help with noise impact. GR agreed to look into these requests and report back to the Board. The subgroup would welcome additional members.	GR
3.9	Item 39: Chair's report to EACC meeting LC confirmed that the next EACC meeting would be held in 2 weeks' time and his draft report would be circulated tomorrow to the Board for comment.	LC

3.10	<p>Item 43: Complaints Data GR explained that he would circulate 5 years noise complaints data within the next 2 weeks as the data was currently being transferred from the HARRIS system to CASPER.</p>	GR
3.11	<p>Item 44: EACC Chief Executive's Report LC & GR to confirm at next EACC meeting whether the Chief Executive's report can be circulated to EANAB members. It was noted that EACC meeting minutes were on their website but not the report.</p>	LC/GR
3.12	<p>Item 48: Legally Binding Letter of Understanding with EAL GR confirmed that EAL had agreed to work with BF regarding the MoU and were awaiting the draft.</p>	BF
3.13	<p>Item 53: It was reported that a paper on Designated Airport Status had been circulated. This will be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	LC/LG
3.14	<p>Item 54: Capacity Explanation GR confirmed this would be ready for the next meeting. He suggested inviting NATS to the meeting for this item</p>	GR
3.15	<p>Item 55: Correspondence with Cramond re noise issues It was noted that Cramond CC and Cramond Association had written direct to EAL regarding this and that discussions had been ongoing for approximately 2 years. It was suggested that any points of learning for noise mitigation at the Cramond end of the runway should also be applied to the Newbridge end to similarly assist communities there. GR confirmed that while EAL have discussions with individual communities these issues will also be discussed with EANAB.</p>	AW/GR
3.16	<p>Item 56: Midlothian Noise Issues AW and GR to progress this. GR to circulate EAL's response to the Board.</p>	AW/GR
3.17	<p>Item 57: Noise Action Plan: Automated Acknowledgement of Responses GR confirmed that responses were received but that not all were acknowledged and EAL was still looking into why that had happened. GR agreed to circulate a report about the NAP responses for discussion at the next meeting.</p>	GR
3.18	<p>Item 60: Meeting Chair & Chief Executive EAL and EANAB GR confirmed that the MoU would be the basis for this meeting and therefore the meeting would be arranged when the MoU was agreed.</p>	LC/GR
3.19	<p>Item 62: Use of Adobe Flash GR confirmed that Adobe Flash is being used for the test site but when the site goes live to the public it will use HTML. The test page will be sent out tomorrow for comment with the aim of a live launch date of 28 May 2018.</p>	
3.20	<p>Item 67: EANAB Web Presence</p>	

	GR confirmed that EAL were able to host the EANAB website and that the EAL web team had offered to design the webpages if this would be helpful. GA had suggested a domain name of EANAB.org.uk which was available. The Board approved this domain name and PP and GR agreed to progress the website.	PP/GR
4.	Agreement of MoU	
4.1	It was noted that there had been a good start to the process. LC asked that members review the document and forward comments by Monday 7 May. LG agreed to let members know whether feedback should go to BF or to her. It was noted that the draft document required some editing/tidying up before being forwarded to EAL for their comments. It was agreed that the official contact for the Board is the Chair and/or Secretary.	LG/LC
5.	Communication of Information to Respective CCs	
5.1	It was noted that most members gave verbal updates to their CCs rather than waiting for approved minutes to distribute. GR reported that EACC circulated 3 or 4 points that were agreed or discussed at their meeting. It was noted that it was important for the CCs to be able to feed into the Board as well as receiving information.	
6.	EANAB Work Programme	
6.1	An update on the progress of the Aviation Consultancy Sub-Group was given. It was noted that several meetings had been held including Skype sessions with To70, the aviation consultants. It was intended that To70 would start receiving data from EAL next week to allow them to start analysing it.	
6.2	This project is the first to test the system in place for projects which EANAB want to carry out but procured and funded through EAL. To date the process seems to be working well with good co-operation between the sub-group and EAL.	
6.3	It was noted that no further progress had been made on the list of suggested work programme topics from the brainstorming session held earlier in the year. It was felt however that although the Board had come a long way since then it was still learning about the issues involved. It was noted that some of the suggestions on the list had been captured in the NAP and RG offered to compare the two documents and refine the list.	RG
6.4	With regard to mobile monitors, GR confirmed that proposed sites were required to meet specific criteria such as access to power, be secure, etc. and that EAL would be looking for volunteers to have the monitors on their property. GR also confirmed that the monitors to be used would be new upgraded models which were more accurate than the previous model used by EAL. The length of time a monitor would be in a particular position would be a minimum of 2 weeks but ideally longer than this. However, the noise captured would depend on which direction the runway was being used, so would be weather dependent. GR confirmed that it would take approximately one day to	

<p>6.6.</p> <p>6.7</p>	<p>reposition a monitor as it needs to be recalibrated once installed at a new location.</p> <p>It was noted that it would be useful to get a picture of the baseline when there are no planes in the area.</p> <p>GR confirmed that EAL's paper on noise monitor locations would be issued next week for comment. It was agreed that the existing Aviation Consultancy Sub-Group would gather everyone's comments on the paper and feedback to EAL.</p>	<p>GR</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p>7</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>7.3</p> <p>7.4</p> <p>7.5</p>	<p>Gordon Robertson Membership and Communications Arrangements</p> <p>GR explained that the EAL Chief Executive had requested that GR should participate in the EANAB meetings as the EAL representative. GR was happy to attend these meetings and felt that being at the meetings helped explain issues and queries raised at meetings at the time they arose rather than being relayed after the meeting and therefore causing delay. GR stated that Gatwick Airport is a full member of their Noise Advisory Board and EAL felt it would be beneficial to be a member of the Edinburgh Board just as it is a member of EACC. GR acknowledged that the Board should discuss this and offered to leave the meeting. It was agreed there was no need for GR to leave the meeting and discussion ensued. Several members raised the question of the Board's independence and thought that EAL's membership of the Board would put this in danger or would be perceived by the wider community as jeopardising this independence. The close working relationship between the sub group and EAL was acknowledged and EAL's presence at meetings was also seen as beneficial.</p> <p>Some members raised concerns regarding the ability to discuss matters in an open and frank manner if EAL were full members of the Board. GR stated that he did not feel his presence at the meeting this evening had hindered debate and that EAL wanted to be part of the Board to help work towards the common main objective of understanding noise and putting in place mitigation to deal with this.</p> <p>The Board agreed that EAL should be an attending member of the EANAB but not a voting member in accordance with the agreed Terms of Reference. In addition, if at any point during a meeting it was felt that the Board wished to discuss a matter in private, or if this were requested of the Chairman in advance, then the EAL representative would be asked to leave the meeting for that particular item.</p> <p>It was further agreed that EAL would not be added to the Gmail Group.</p> <p>GR requested that EAL should be included in mailings of a governance nature, e.g. agenda, draft minutes, papers to be discussed at meetings, etc. In addition, EAL should be included in any discussions relating to a governance topic in order to contribute as appropriate.</p>	<p>LC/LG</p>

7.6	<p>GR also suggested that NATS be given a standing invitation to attend meetings as this could be beneficial going forward in relation to technical issues.</p> <p>It was agreed that GR be given the email addresses of Board members to enable him to circulate reports, information, etc.</p>	PP/LG?
8. 8.1	<p>Feedback from EAL on EANAB Legal Status</p> <p>It was noted that progress was being made regarding the legal status of the Board.</p>	
9 9.1.	<p>Finalise Agreement on Website</p> <p>It was noted that this would be progressed by PP and GR. Members were asked to think about what content they would like to see on the website. GR agreed to circulate a link to the Gatwick NAB website.</p>	PP/GR GR
10	AOCB	
10.1	<p>Noise Metrics</p> <p>Concerns were raised regarding the current noise metrics being used and how appropriate these are for measuring the impact of the noise being experienced in communities. While there may be better methods than simply LAEQ for future noise mapping, a suggestion made that it should be possible to extend the contour maps down to 51dB LAEQ, with noise contours by aircraft type down to 60dB LMax. These should be able to be provided by the CAA. A question was asked about the percentage error margin in the noise contour maps provided in the NAP.</p> <p>GR agreed to report back to the Board on this matter with timescales on how this can be done.</p> <p>GR replied that the NAP and submissions to this would help EAL to build the best picture they can on this and they will come back to the Board as quickly as possible with what they believe can be done now, in the future and how this will be achieved.</p>	GR
10.2	<p>Confidentiality of Data</p> <p>It was noted that the ToR stated that members should treat all information as confidential. Therefore the large amounts of data being provided to To70 by EAL would be available to the Board via To70 and should be treated as confidential.</p>	
10.3	<p>Reporting from EAL</p> <p>GR asked the Board what type of information they would like to receive in the form of a standardised report for future meetings, e.g. flight path data, noise complaints, etc. GR agreed to produce an initial report for comment.</p>	GR
10.4	<p>9Standing Items</p> <p>Agreed that reports from meetings held should be added to the Agenda as a standing item</p>	LG

10.5	<p>It was noted that the UK Government has recently issued a new discussion document on future aviation strategy “Beyond the horizon – the future of UK aviation”. HP had circulated a short paper to members about this.</p> <p>A green paper is expected to be put before Westminster in the Autumn. The Dept for Transport is currently forming the new policy, and this provides an opportunity for the Board to make a contribution if thought appropriate. It was agreed to discuss this matter at a future meeting.</p>	LC/LG
	DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 6 June 2018 at 6.30pm in the Marriott Hotel	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.