

AIRPORT POLICY TASK GROUP held at COUNCIL OFFICES LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 2.30 pm on 9 MARCH 2007

Present:- Councillor A Dean – Chairman
Councillors C A Cant, M A Gayler, A J Ketteridge and
P A Wilcock.

Officers in attendance:- A Bovaird, R Auty, J Mitchell and M T Purkiss.

AP29 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absences were received from Councillors J F Cheetham
E J Godwin and A R Thawley

AP30 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2007 were approved as a
correct record and signed by the Chairman.

AP31 BUSINESS ARISING

(i) Minute AP23 – Proposed Conference on Aviation

It was noted that two quotes had been received for organising a proposed
conference on Aviation Emissions Cost Analysis. A third quote would be
received on 12 March. It was hoped that delegate fees would cover the costs
involved.

Councillor Ketteridge asked whether any research had been carried out on
whether sufficient delegates could be attracted and he also expressed
concern at the short time scale involved in organising this conference by the
middle of May. Alasdair Bovaird said that the conference would keep the
issue in the public eye and it was intended to be a learning event aimed at
fellow professionals and it was hoped that a considered opinion would be
produced.

Councillor Cant suggested that Government representatives should be asked
to attend and speak at the proposed conference.

ACTION Officers to progress further once all three quotes had been
received, and to keep time scales and costs under review and
keep Members of the Task Group advised of progress.

(ii) Minute AP25 - Communications Update

It was noted that discussions were taking place about the possibility of taking
Stansted Explained in house.

AP31 **RUNWAY 2 TIMETABLE**

John Mitchell reported that consultation on surface access was under way. He said that there would be no Scoping Study but there would be a Scoping Paper. He also reported that the anticipated planning application would be submitted before the end of September and it was expected that the Secretary of State would call this in immediately.

AP32 **RUNWAY 2 – RESOURCES TO HANDLE APPLICATION**

John Mitchell reported that the Public Inquiry starting on 30 May was expected to last for 6 weeks but he considered this timescale to be optimistic. He said that there were resource issues within the Council in dealing with the Runway 2 proposals and the Public Inquiry.

He also referred to the issued of finance and the estimated cost of legal fees and the Council's budget in the District Character Reserve. He said that if the Inquiry lasted for very much longer than six weeks there could be resource problems for the Council. He explained that, whilst some of the cost would be shared with other local authorities, Uttlesford would have to bear the main burden as the determining authority.

AP32 **CLIMATE CHANGE INQUIRY POSTION**

Councillor A Dean referred to the comments of the Inspector that the Inquiry would not debate the merits of government policy. John Mitchell said that he had spoken to the legal representatives and all agreed that the Inquiry could only look at the situation in the light of current government policy. He said that he would be submitting a report to the meeting of the Development Control Committee on 4 April suggesting that two of the reasons for refusal be amended to omit the reference to the Stern Report and include reference to an emissions cost assessment.

ACTION Copy of report be circulated to all Members

AP33 **RUNWAY 1 – ENQUIRY TIMETABLE**

It was noted that the Public Inquiry would be held at Endeavour House and there would be some resource implications for the Council in terms of renting a room for its own purposes. Car parking was available and the shuttle bus stopped at Endeavour House. It was also noted that the Inquiry would be dealt with on a case by case basis with Uttlesford on first.

AP34 **RELATIONS WITH SSE**

There had been no change to the position reported at the last meeting.

AP35

AVAILABILITY OF OFFICERS

It was reported that John Mitchell, Roger Harborough and Jeremy Pine were currently working on proofs of evidence that had to be submitted on 25 April. These Officers would be extremely busy from now until September and their availability would be limited.

AP36

THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Friday 30 March 2007 at 9 am.

The meeting ended a 3.45 pm.