

AIRPORT POLICY TASK GROUP held at COUNCIL OFFICES LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 9.00am on 30 MARCH 2007

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

Officers in attendance: - A Bovaird, R Auty, J Mitchell, E O'Malley and M Perry

AP37 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor E J Godwin and R Harborough.

AP38 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 9 March 2007 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

AP39 MATTERS ARISING

(i) Minute AP31 – Proposed Conference on Aviation

Councillor Cheetham requested clarification on the proposed conference on Aviation. Alasdair Bovaird explained that the finance would come from normal communication funds and the conference would be aimed at a professional audience. Councillor Wilcock told the group that a number of related conferences were taking place in the coming months, and it was agreed that it was essential that publicity for the Aviation Conference was started 2 – 3 months beforehand.

AP40 OPEN SKY AGREEMENT

Councillor Cant asked the Group what were the implications of the Open Sky Agreement for Stansted Airport. She said that she felt from this agreement far more pressure would be placed on Heathrow for a third runway, which might lessen the pressure on Stansted. John Mitchell agreed but explained that it would not be wise to express support of the Open Sky Agreement for that reason.

AP41 PROPOSAL TO LIMIT THE SCOPE OF THE INQUIRY TO 35 MPPA

The Policy Group discussed the proposal to limit the scope of the Inquiry to 35 mppa.

It was agreed by that a response from the Council to Cameron McKenna's letter was required, as well as a letter to the Inspector. Alasdair Bovaird suggested a public letter should also go to press on Monday. This would be composed by all 3 party leaders, and should detail the Council's refusal to

accept the proposed scope. Councillor Cant asked whether a proposed resolution could be made from the letter to be brought for decision at the Development Control committee meeting on Wednesday. All agreed this would be the most appropriate course of action.

ACTION: All three party leaders to compose a letter of opposition to the proposal to go to press on Monday 2 April.

AP42 PUBLIC SPEAKING AT THE FORTHCOMING PUBLIC INQUIRY ON THE FULL USE OF ONE RUNWAY

Councillor Cheetham said she was aware that at a public inquiry it was the Inspectors discretion whether public were or were not allowed to speak and expressed concern as the views of the public might may often be seen as repetition. Councillor Cant reminded the Group that the Inspector would be visiting villages during the Inquiry. John Mitchell explained that he had planned to only visit Stansted and Great Dunmow. Councillor Cant suggested that a message explaining the importance of visiting villages most affected by the airport must be sent to the Inspector. John Mitchell reminded Members that this was a public inquiry not a public meeting and therefore there would not be an opportunity for every voice to be heard. Councillor Cheetham mentioned that the web cast had been formulated and the Alasdair Bovaird said this should be offered to the Inspector as evidence.

AP43 FINANCIAL STATE OF RESERVES TO PAY FOR INQUIRY

Councillor Cheetham asked for clarification on the progress of budgeting for the Inquiry. John Mitchell explained that the legal costs were covered and there was no issue with finance. Alasdair Bovaird explained that there were also reserves, so there was no need for concern.

AP44 ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

(i) Stansted Gateway Transportation Board

Alasdair Bovaird asked Members to note the email he had distributed to them the night before and asked for their comments on the matter. Councillor Cant supported the reply Alasdair Bovaird had sent to Tony Ciaburro, the HT Service Director for Highways and Transportation and was curious as to why Uttlesford had not been informed of the Stansted Gateway Transportation Board as it affected the district. Councillor Dean emphasised the importance of forming a West Essex Economic Development Group to work together with those at Harlow District Council in order to ensure decisions were made with Uttlesfords input. The Chief Executive added that he had not yet received a reply from Tony Ciaburro but expected it would be in the form of an invitation to the next meeting.

(ii) Stansted Generation Surface Document - page 29

Councillor A Dean asked Members to note the graph on page 29 of the Stansted Generation Surface Document and explained he was concerned that the Department for Transport Assumptions had predicted car travel costs would decrease by 20% whilst other forms of travel would continue to rise. Councillor A Dean said this would result in car travel increasing by 50%. Councillor Wilcock agreed and asked when a response to this could be discussed. Alasdair Bovaird replied that the meeting on the 25th May would be most appropriate as the Full Council meeting had a lengthy agenda at present.

AP45 THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Friday 25 May 2007 at 9 am.

The meeting ended at 10.45 am