

**AIRPORT WORKING PARTY held at 7.30 pm at COUNCIL OFFICES  
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN on 23 JULY 2001**

Present: Councillor Mrs J F Cheetham – Vice-Chairman in the Chair.  
Councillors Mrs M A Caton, Mrs C M Dean, P G F Lewis,  
R C Smith and P A Wilcock.

Also present: Councillor R P Chambers.

Also present at the Chairman's invitation: Councillors Mrs E J Godwin and  
R A Merrion.

Officers in attendance: Mrs L Bunting and B D Perkins.

AP40 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M L Foley,  
A J Ketteridge, G Sell and A C Streeter. An apology for absence was also  
received from Mr C Bush – Planning Director, Stansted Airport.

AP41 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mrs J F Cheetham declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member  
of NWEHPA.

AP42 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2001 were received, confirmed  
and signed by the Vice-Chairman as a correct record.

AP43 **BUSINESS ARISING**

**Minute AP36**

Members had expressed concern at the last meeting over the wording of the  
Consultative Committee's response to the consultation report on proposals to  
develop Stansted Airport beyond 15mppa and had considered that it implied  
support for further expansion.

Councillor Smith had attended the STACC meeting held on 25 April 2001 and  
had proposed an amendment which clarified that it was for local authorities to  
decide the right way forward in dealing with further development at Stansted  
Airport. The amendment was carried.

AP44 **STANSTED AIRPORT UPDATE**

Members received a report from Mr C Bush outlining progress to date at the  
Airport.

The report stated that passenger throughput up to June this year was approximately 12.9 million, an increase of 21.7% on this time last year. Cargo traffic throughput to June amounted to 175,303 metric tonnes, an increase of 6.8% on last year's figures. It was also reported that UK domestic flights had increased since the rail accident at Hatfield.

The Director of Community Services reported that the planning application for the proposed growth of the Airport to 25mppa was expected to be submitted at the beginning of August. Councillor Smith referred to the planned new standby runway and the need for strict conditions on its use. In terms of possible longer term developments the Council would need to respond robustly to the Government consultation now expected early next year.

Councillor Mrs Godwin referred to the construction of the slip roads near Birchanger. The work was due to take 18 months and was causing the build up of traffic during peak times which was a considerable problem for the village. A bund was to be created during the next planting season.

AP45

### **NIGHT FLIGHTS AT STANSTED AIRPORT**

Members received a copy of a letter from John Stent, Managing Director of Stansted Airport, regarding the Council's request to reduce the number of night flights to zero. In his letter, Mr Stent outlined a typical night's operations at the Airport and went on to say that BAA had introduced a voluntary ban on any new QC4 flights at night. The principal effect of a night ban would be the loss of jobs and business and would make Stansted a less attractive business proposition for many airlines which in turn would penalise both the local area and region. The night flight regime was controlled by the DETR and the next review would take place in 2003/04. Mr Stent had given BAA Stansted's commitment that an increase in night flights would not be sought at that time.

A reply was to be sent expressing disappointment on its content and requesting a debate of the issues, which could take place at the first meeting of the new Stansted Airport Advisory Panel.

The Vice-Chairman suggested that the Council write to the Government, making clear the views of the Council and pointing out that, in Europe, night flight activity was operated only at very few airports. As it was the Government's policy to determine night flights, she said it was a good opportunity to make the Council's opinions clear.

AP46

### **STANSTED AIRPORT ADVISORY PANEL**

The Director of Community Services advised Members that, at present, there were no terms of reference for this Panel and that now was an opportunity for views and comments.

Members agreed that the terms of reference should remain generally similar to the existing terms of reference of the Working Party. A clear working relationship needed to be established between the Panel and the

Environment and Transport Committee. The Panel should continue to be programmed in relation to the STACC meetings four times a year as at present and proposed that extra meetings be arranged as and when required.

**AP47 MINUTES OF STACC MEETING HELD ON 25 APRIL 2001**

The Working Party received the Minutes of the STACC meeting held on 25 April 2001. The Vice-Chairman thanked Councillor Smith for his work on STACC.

**AP48 AGENDA FOR STACC MEETING ON 25 JULY 2001**

The Working Party received the agenda for the STACC meeting to be held on 25 July 2001. Members noted with sadness the death of John Baker of the Uttlesford Association of Local Councils.

Councillor Mrs Caton was to attend the meeting and a discussion then took place regarding matters to be raised. These included ground running noise which was particularly bad at present, the smell of Kerosene in Birchanger and the difficulty in getting through to the noise complaint line at the Airport .

**AP49 REPORTS ON REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Vice-Chairman circulated a report outlining a recent visit to Finningley Airport near Doncaster which was the subject of a planning application for commercial and freight operation.

The Director of Community Services reported on his attendance at a meeting of SASIG. It was considering whether a further response was required to Government before the consultation next year.

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm.