

STANSTED AIRPORT ADVISORY PANEL held at 7.30 pm at COUNCIL OFFICES LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN on 22 OCTOBER 2001

Present: Councillors Mrs M A Caton, Mrs J F Cheetham, A Dean, M L Foley, Mrs E J Godwin, R D Green, R A Merrion, G Sell, A C Streeter and P A Wilcock.

Also present: Councillor R P Chambers.

Also present at the Chairman's invitation:- Councillor Mrs D Cornell.

Officers in attendance:- W Cockerell, Mrs L J Crowe and B D Perkins.

SA1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Councillor A C Streeter be appointed Chairman of the Advisory Panel for the ensuing year.

SA2 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor R C Smith.

SA3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs J F Cheetham be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Panel for the ensuing year.

SA4 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Airport Working Party held on 23 July 2001 were received, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

SA5 BUSINESS ARISING

In reply to a question from Councillor A Dean, the Director of Community Services said he could think of no reason why the Chairman of the Environment and Transport Committee should not be Vice-Chairman of the Stansted Airport Advisory Panel. However, if a reason came to light, Members would be informed.

SA6 NIGHT FLIGHTS

Members received a report informing them of the recent decision of the European Court of Human Rights on the impact of night flights on certain residents living close to Heathrow Airport. Members also received copies of the judgement on the case. The Court's judgement had supported the claim of a number of named residents in the vicinity of Heathrow Airport and had

awarded them compensation and their legal costs. The British Government now had three months in which to appeal and was currently considering its response.

Following Members' questions, officers would advise on how many international airports were using night flights.

Members expressed concern at the increase in flights during the twilight zones. They also raised the issue as to what impact there would be on jobs at the airport if night flights were phased out over a few years. Members agreed that they would take the opportunity to write again to the Government and remind it of their policy to ban night flights. It was also agreed that a letter be sent to the Government stating that Uttlesford District Council welcomed the decision of the European Court of Human Rights and requesting the Government not to appeal as the rights of residents to have a good night's rest should be of paramount importance. It was the policy of Uttlesford District Council to support a night flight ban at Stansted Airport and all London Airports.

Copies of the letter would be circulated to the local MEPs, town and parish councils, local partners and the airport itself.

SA7

REPORT BACK FROM THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT) REGARDING PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATION TO DEVELOP STANSTED AIRPORT BEYOND 15 MPPA (UTT/1000/01/OP)

Councillor Mrs Cornell, the Vice-Chairman of Scrutiny Committee 2 (Resources and Environment) attended the Advisory Panel meeting to convey the views of the Scrutiny Committee on the public consultation for the current planning application to develop Stansted Airport beyond 15 mppa. She said that Members of the Scrutiny Committee wanted to be assured that full consultation was taking place with the community within the framework of the planning process. Members had been previously advised of what consultation was taking place over and above the normal processes adopted by the Council. Joint working and funding with the key planning authorities were being pursued. Officers were considering where additional consultancy advice was required. A progress report was due to go before the Development Control and Licensing Committee on 26 November 2001. Members said that there was concern that the District Council would not be able to afford the best advice. The Director of Community Services reminded Members of the expertise of the many consultees considering the application. The Leader of the Council assured Members that financial resources were available, if required, for the best possible independent advice.

In reply to a question on alternative advice for the stand-by runway application, the Director of Community Services advised Members that officers were considering how best to progress the application in view of the discussion at the last meeting of the Development Control and Licensing Committee. He reminded Members that the Development Control and Licensing Committee could not make a decision on what might happen and that it could only decide the application on the facts before it. Some Members

suggested that the Advisory Panel should be pro-active and that a leaflet distributed to households in the district might help communications with the public on Stansted Airport.

SA8 FUTURE PROGRAMME OF WORK

Members discussed matters that they would like to consider at future Advisory Panel meetings. Suggestions made included:

- (i) Presentation from Richard Buxton on night flights
- (ii) Presentation by Jim Bailey of SASIG on the SERAS report
- (iii) Presentation from FedEx on the necessity of night flights
- (iv) Presentation from Thames Water Authority
- (v) Health Risks, re: pollution around the airport
- (vi) Transport infrastructure
- (vii) Aviation Environment Federation

The Director of Community Services reminded Members that some of these issues were dealt with in other forums and advised that the Council should avoid duplication.

It was agreed that officers would prepare a programme based on the above suggestions for the next meeting. It was suggested that a presentation on night flights should take place after the Government had decided whether or not to appeal against the Strasbourg decision. A discussion on the SERAS report would then take place in March/April depending on the timing of the publication of the report by Government.

SA9 MINUTES OF STACC MEETING HELD ON 25 JULY 2001

The Advisory Panel received the minutes of the STACC meeting held on 25 July 2001. In connection with item 83, Ground Noise Study, the Principal Environmental Health Officer would circulate the data that had been compiled by Dr Flindell to Members.

SA10 AGENDA FOR STACC MEETING ON 24 OCTOBER 2001

The Advisory Panel received the agenda, but no reports for the STACC meeting to be held on 24 October 2001. Councillor A Dean requested that parking for picking up passengers should be raised.

SA11

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Vice-Chairman of the Panel had attended a recent meeting of SASIG and had been asked to join the Chairman's advisory group. The Director of Community Services referred to its most recent meeting at which its policy statement had been agreed. Copies were circulated to Members and arrangements would be made to circulate copies to all Members of the Council. It was noted that SASIG was totally opposed to a new runway at Heathrow, Gatwick or Stansted, although accepted that such suggestions would be tested through the consultation process.

SA12

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Stansted Airport Advisory Panel would be held on Monday 21 January 2001 and further meeting dates would be arranged at that meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm