

Wolverhampton Halfpenny Green Airport

Airport User Group Meeting

Wednesday 11th January 2017

MINUTES

Present:

Tony Rowlands	AR	Wolverhampton Airport
David Morgan	DM	Private Owners
David Howell	DH	Private Owners
Bob Kirk	BK	Wolverhampton Flight Training
James Crawley	JC	Air Midwest
Steve Wilkes	SW	Hadair

1. Apologies for Absence

Alastair Mackinnon Wolverhampton Airport

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting dated 5th October 2016 were accepted without modification.

3. Matters Arising

DM noted that fuel hose/fuel bay etiquette issues were unresolved. (See 11 below)

4. WASIRs

AR reported that eight WASIRs had been raised since the last meeting.

Details of all WASIRs given. WASIR WA022/16 concerned people in the fuel bay. BK pointed out the difficulty of identifying people in the fuel bay and knowing whether or not they had a need to be present.

5. AIRPROXs

No AIRPROX reports had been received since the last meeting.

6. Security

No security reports had been raised since the last meeting.

DM said there was a failure to put based aircraft back into hangars after flight which was a security issue particularly for aircraft outside Hangar 3 West where members of the public were recently seen leaning against an aircraft's wing.

AR said two men had been arrested just before the meeting in connection with credit card fraud. They had tried to arrange a flight to Manchester and had tried to pay with a fraudulent card.

7. Complaints

Two complaints had been received since the last meeting.

One was from the complainant to the west of the airport pointing out that the airport was getting busier again and that his house was frequently being overflowed.

JC provided details of the second complaint dated 6th January 2017.

8. Instrument Approaches

Copies of (draft) Public Consultation document were issued. Launch date was 7th January but was running approximately two weeks late. Further delay will ensue due to the resignation of the Operations Manager.

9. Runway Conditions

All attendees expressed a wish to reinstate runway 04/22. All were of the opinion that it was currently useable and that damage was unlikely from the types of aircraft they were operating.

AR informed the meeting that the Operations Manager had resigned and a date for repairs could not be given.

10. Birmingham Airport Local Airspace Infringement Team

No one present had attended the November 2016 meeting and no minutes had been circulated. Nothing to report.

11. Aircraft Refuelling

DM stated the fuel hose is frequently tangled causing delays in refuelling. Although it was acknowledged that this was due entirely to users, it was suggested that RFFS periodically check the hose and re-wind or make it otherwise useable. BK thought the hose was unnecessarily long for general use. Could half the hose be tie-wrapped to restrict its length – but enabling it to be cut if necessary?

DM (representing other users) said some pilots remained at the fuel pumps after refuelling keeping others waiting. DH pointed out that having checked there was no one waiting, once in the aircraft it was impossible to know if aircraft had now pulled up behind. AR said a Newsletter article raised this issue and asked pilots to be considerate in this regard.

12. Aircraft outside Hangars

DM was concerned about aircraft being left outside Hangars after flight, sometimes for considerable periods in poor weather. Aircraft should be hangared within a “reasonable time” – 30 minutes was suggested. DM emphasised that a tug had been provided at cost to aircraft owners. (AM subsequently said this had been raised with the CFO who was aware of the issue).

13. Any Other Business

JC said the Signal Square did not always “match up” with the runway in use. AR said due to staffing levels (occasionally just one person on duty) it was not possible to leave the Tower to change the signal. In such circumstances the Landing Tee is often closed to avoid giving incorrect signals.

JC said mobile telephone contact with the Airport website is currently not possible.

JC requested access to the "Hazard Log" of other ATOs and the Airport to identify risks and improve safety. AR said the Airport Risk Register was available.

DH (representing a private owner) suggested a "dolly" be available to assist moving aircraft with punctures. BK thought there might be a refusal to use such a device for fear of damage to aircraft or personal injury.

BK pointed out that pot holes in public car park require attention.

BK said it would be useful if RFFS attended User Group meetings.

SW said tarmac repairs were required between Hadair office and Hangar 5 East. He said there is currently a risk of propeller damage.

SW asked if top panels could be removed from Hangar 5 roof for ventilation. This had been agreed previously but not effected.

DM said that the water heater in the gent's toilet near Hangar 3 East was unserviceable.

DM commented on abandoned Toyota in car park which has been present for at least 12 months saying it should be removed.

14. Dates of Future Meetings

31 st March 2017	5 pm
5 th July 2017	5 pm
4 th October 2017	5 pm