



**BLACKBUSHE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

c/o Clare Silcock (Secretary)  
Blackbushe Airport Ltd  
Terminal Building  
Blackbushe Airport  
Camberley  
Surrey  
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18 September 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

**BLACKBUSHE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 19:00**  
**PATHFINDER CAFÉ, BLACKBUSHE AIRPORT**

The next meeting of the committee will be held at The Pathfinder Café at Blackbushe Airport on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 7pm, when the presence of members is requested.

The agenda for the meeting is enclosed, along with the minutes of the previous meeting which was held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

I should be grateful if any member who cannot attend the meeting would kindly let me know in advance, by e-mail. Deputies are welcome to attend as are members of the public as this is a public meeting.

The Airport have a section of their website dedicated to this committee <https://www.blackbusheairport.co.uk/consultative-committee/> where as previously agreed it would be appreciated if you could publicise it on your website to increase the awareness of this committee.

Yours sincerely

Clare Silcock  
**Secretary of the Blackbushe Airport Consultative Committee**

## BLACKBUSHE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting to be held at 7pm on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023

### AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting (Appendix 1)**  
To approve the draft minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023, attached.
3. **Report by Airport Manager on Business Performance including monitoring of complaints**
4. **Blackbushe Air Day 2023**
5. **Twilight Runway Challenge**
6. **Matters Arising**
7. **Update on Deregistration of Common Land**
8. **Climate Net Zero**
9. **Questions (members of the public may ask questions for a period not exceeding 15 minutes)**
10. **AOB**
11. **Confirmation of date and venue of the next meeting**

Clare Silcock  
Secretary of the Blackbushe Airport Consultative Committee  
18<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## APPENDIX 1

**BLACKBUSHE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT 19:00 ON THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2023**

**Present:**

Chris Gazzard	Blackbushe Airport [CG]
Michael Bagshaw	Chair [MB]
Cllr Sheila Davenport	Sandhurst Town Council [SD]
Cllr Diana Harvey	Hartley Whitney Parish Council [DH]
Cllr Richard Quarterman	Hart District Council [RQ]
Mary Ferris	Yateley Society
Clare Silcock	Secretary [CS]

		Action required by
<b>1</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>  Cllr Terry Hunt Blackwater & Hawley Town Council, Cllr Peter Cullum Rushmoor Borough Council, Cllr Steve Thomas Sandhurst Town Council, Di Gardner Yateley Society, Pam Phelps Yateley Town Council	
<b>2</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022</b>  The minutes of the meeting held on 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2022 were agreed as a true record. This was proposed by RQ and seconded by SD.	
<b>3</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</b>  CG raised one point from the previous meeting concerning the management of the disused runway. At the time of the last meeting he had been in discussion with the RSPB who expressed an interest in managing the area in a lease agreement. Since that time we have come across some legal complications surrounding the lease term requirements and the Countryside Stewardship Funding, which has delayed things, but we still hope this will go ahead in time for January 2024.	CG
<b>4</b>	<b>AIRPORT MANAGER'S UPDATE</b>  These minutes are in addition to the Airport Managers detailed presentation which should be referred to in conjunction with these minutes.  <b>4.1 In the Business Performance</b> – The growth in the airport numbers is mainly due increased flying school flights. There are currently 91 based aircraft, which is the highest there has ever been, but most of the additions have been from private owners who only fly a couple of times per month. In addition, Helicopter Services are now filling the void left Phoenix Helicopters. They are based in White Waltham but have a satellite office at BBS now. The numbers of business jets using Blackbushe has decreased in Q1 which maybe	

	<p>because more are going back into Farnborough because they have lifted their restrictions on aircraft of less than 7.5 tonnes.</p> <p>No additional shareholder funds were needed in 2022. The airport has seen a very good start to 2023, especially the piston engine traffic. Although business jet traffic is down, turbo props have increased. With the increase in based aircraft each paying £2,500 - £3,000 pa for tarmac standing and not flying a lot, it is good business for the airport. One of the fleet operators at Blackbushe has decreased in their number, but the airport is regaining numbers with individual owners.</p> <p>Average daily movements have been very good this year apart from this last week when the weather has taken a turn for the worse. The monthly movement graph is a bit flatter than it used to be which is useful as we don't see so many peaks and troughs which is more difficult to cope with.</p> <p><b>4.2 Common Land Deregistration</b> – The Airport is in a similar position to last year in that we are still awaiting a decision from the Planning Inspectorate (PINs). We have just heard that a new inspector has been assigned to the case and they want to read all the submissions again. The lawyers have responded requesting that Alan Beckett still reviews the BBS case as it should be a quick decision given that HCC, OSS and we all agree on the land that can be deregistered which is the Terminal Building, the Café and potentially the café patio.</p> <p>DH asked CG to remind the committee of exactly what was requested in the first place and how it has come to where we are now. CG explained that originally, we had asked that the active aerodrome be released from the common land as the terminal building, café building and airfield had been there before the land was registered as common land. The process started in 2016, when our shareholders bought the land and the business. We wanted it all deregistered so that we could build hangars and grow the airport business. BBS originally was granted the request by PINs but after an appeal, this was subsequently denied. Six months ago the Supreme Court referred the application back to PINs. The airport requested just the Terminal Building, Café and patio be considered for de-registration and this is still with PINs as the planning inspector has now moved on and it will be reviewed by a different person. Thankfully the local council and OSS are broadly in agreement of this so we are hoping that this gets approved. The second option for the airport was an exchange of land, but back in 2016 we did not own any other parcel of land close to Yateley Common, so it wasn't an option. However in 2021, Cottage Farm became available and one of our shareholders bought an equestrian centre with 35.3 acres of paddock land adjacent to the common. The farm is currently being rented by a business but they know that ultimately we want to exchange 35.3 acres of land to enable some of the airfield land to be swapped with it. BBS have already pre-consulted with local councillors so they are aware of the plan. Currently we are getting a report put together by a land exchange specialist. We are planning to submit this report in the next two months for a s16 land exchange. We would be</p>	<p>CG</p> <p>CG</p>
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	<p>happy to send this out to the local councillors. DH and SD expressed a definite interest for this.</p> <p>The original vision document is currently on the website, but this is currently being updated as we speak. We will most likely hold an Exceptional Meeting at The Tythings to consult with the local people about our plans whilst we are out to public consultation.</p> <p><b>4.3 – Noise Complaints</b></p> <p>There have been 10 complaints since the last meeting, 4 of which were from the same complainant. The airport investigates all complaints and deals with it as it sees fit. The most common infringement is when Runway 07 is used, and some pilots might clip the noise abatement area as they turn. RQ asked to see where the noise abatement area was, and CG brought this up on screen and also explained that this can be found on the BBS website.</p> <p><b>4.4 Blackbushe Events 2023</b></p> <p>The <b>BBS Air Day</b> is happening on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June due to popularity of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations last year. We have purposely avoided the Hartley Wintney Fair this year. However, we have learned that there are planned weekend works on the M3 throughout June which will mean that the A30 is busier than usual. We are in discussions with the Highways agency about this.</p> <p>The <b>Twilight Runway Challenge</b> is planned for Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September, and this raised nearly £40,000 for charity last year.</p>	CG
5	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PUBLIC &amp; COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>RQ asked for an update on the <b>Heritage Trust</b>. The Trust has managed to secure a donation from BA for £20,000 and in addition some of the BA staff have elected to pass on some of their charity allocation to the Trust. The Trust now have raised enough money to start the transportation process of the Viking, which we are hopeful will start in April/May with it being based at BBS by the Air Day in June. The airport is going to fund some shipping containers to be at BBS, and there are a lot of volunteers ready to start to restore the plane. The intention is to have it looking the part, not to fly it. Ultimately it will be the centre piece to a museum we want at the Airfield. A few volunteers were present at the meeting and offered to share any history that people might be interested in after the meeting. Peter Brown a member of the audience explained that we were interested in bringing a Viking to BBS because in the 1960s there were about 30 Vikings based here.</p> <p>SD asked how long it would be before the airport could build any permanent structures. CG explained that a s16 would most likely take a year, and then we would have to go through the whole planning process, so it is likely to be 2-3 years before we see any buildings erected.</p>	

6	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b> – DH asked if BBS has any customs based at the airfield. CG explained that BBS has a Certificate of Agreement where operators have to file flight plans with details of all passengers. Border Force always receive a copy of this and then they choose whether to meet and inspect the flight or not. About 30% of passengers are from the EU and Border Force tend not to come out to those very often. However, flights from the Chanel Islands, Ireland and non-EU countries get inspected a lot of the time. Since Brexit no goods can be accepted via BBS.</p> <p>There was no other business to report and MB thanked everyone for attending and said that CS would be notifying everyone of the next meeting planned for September/ October.</p>	CS
10	<p><b>FUTURE MEETING</b> - The next meeting date will be Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 at 7pm at the Pathfinder Café again. However please let CS know if this creates a clash with other local events.</p>	