

Motueka Aerodrome Operations and Safety Committee

Tasman District Council

Date and Time: 12 July 2023 at 10 am

Venue: Motueka Aero Club

Present: Stuart Bean (Chair)

Jackie Day (NAC), Gregory Wood, John Richards, Bruce Broady, Mark Woodhouse, Kevin Bedford, Carlton Campbell (CAA).

In Attendance: Stephen Batt (Senior Enterprise Officer) and Christina Ewing (Enterprise Officer and meeting scribe).

Apologies: James Meldrum (Inflite), Brad Keay (NAC), Mark Stagg (Argus Aviation Ltd), Nick Chin (TDC) and Giles Whitney (NAC).

Meeting opened at 10 am

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr Batt opened the meeting with a karakia.

2. Apologies

James Meldrum (Inflite), Brad Keay (NAC), Mark Stagg (Argus Aviation Ltd), Nick Chin (TDC) and Giles Whitney (NAC).

That the apologies be accepted for the Motueka Aerodrome Operations and Safety Meeting.

Moved: John Richards **Seconded:** Kevin Bradford

CARRIED

3. Minutes of the last meeting – The 14 March 2023 minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved: Gregory Wood **Seconded:** Jackie Day

CARRIED

4. Reappointment of Chair

That the Motueka Aerodrome Operations and Safety Meeting reappoints Mr Stuart Bean as Chair of the Committee.

Moved: Gregory Wood **Seconded:** Jackie Day

5. Action items from the previous meeting

The action items discussed and updated (updated action log at end of minutes).

6. Operations and Safety Issues

Health and Safety

An article was placed in the Council's Newline publication titled:

'Keep safe at Aerodromes'. It was designed to inform the public that aerodromes were operational areas and not to enter without permission.

Fencing had been secured around the aerodrome, though users did bring up that some fencing needed to be looked at over on the Reserve area.

Users were happy with the mowing contractor; however, grass did get too long last spring. Mr Batt informed the group he would relook at the mowing schedule for that month.

CAA Update

Mr Campbell from the CAA, updated the group that the CAA was launching a new safety campaign, named 'Work together, Stay Apart'. This is to reduce the likelihood of mid-air accidents and the number of near collision and air proximity events within the circuit of unattended aerodromes.

The focus is on communication and reset the standard on radio calls;

- Clear
- Concise
- Complete
- Consistent

It will be an 1.5 to 2-year campaign, it will include video resources available regarding unattended airfields and training.

The Chair thanked Mr Campbell for the update.

Designation of the aerodrome

Mr Batt mentioned that it would be good to be able to rezone both aerodromes to an airport zone, as this would help facilitate developments. Users asked if the aerodrome could be identified as a strategic asset for the district, especially in terms of emergency.

Noise Complaints

Mr Clifton had complained to Council, regarding the noise coming from the aerodrome, in particular, the operations of inflite. Mr Bean replied that the climb area for inflite is out by the Mt Campbell area (where Mr Clifton is located) and the company has permission to do this. He stated that he has offered to meet with Mr Clifton, he has also offered flights and tried varying the flight path as much as he can. It was asked by Mr Bean; if it would be possible to ascertain a noise plan boundary with the Council planners. Mr Batt would follow this up.

As Operators the Council monitor aircraft noise complaints and follow up these complaints with the users. We have updated our registry of complaints, so it is more functional and would like to be notified if a user receives a complaint directly. These need to be discussed regularly and as mentioned in the aerodromes MOU, 'Fly Neighbourly' rules, should continue to be implemented.

Resource Consent for adjacent property

The Resource Consent for the land user adjacent to Motueka Aerodrome has closed. There have

been many submissions both for and against the consent, 208 in total. A public hearing is to be scheduled with submitters provided the opportunity to speak to their submissions.

54 Green Lane and the newly erected structure. The CAA has initiated an investigation regarding the structure. Compliance staff have been around to inspect the premises, including land use and if a building consent was acquired. Iwi consultation also seems to be missed by Ruru homes, judging by the submission from Whakatu Incorporated, which is concerning. All submissions are available on the Tasman District Council website.

The Users expressed concern that Mr Huelsmeyer does not follow any of the processes, which could endanger the safety of trainee and other pilots.

Power

The ongoing issue of power to the western end of the aerodrome was discussed. Initially it was thought a good infrastructure upgrade. However, after discussion at the meeting, the existing users were not prepared to contribute to the upgrades, as the cost was too much. It also seems that some of the users that have shown interest in building hangars at the western boundary, also do not wish to contribute. Mr Batt would get quotes, however, if users were not wanting power or willing to contribute something to the costs, it sounded like this project would not continue.

That led the group to discuss hangar developments. It was mentioned the process for obtaining information regarding new hangar builds should be easier. A information pack should be developed clearly outlining the process and costs.

Mr Batt would speak with John Richards over this.

A User brought up the last Drag Races meeting that happened over Easter. They wished to use the aerodrome at the last met. They state, they could not get through to Mr Maguire to gain permission. Staff responded that Mr Maguire is very experienced and holds a cellphone and is available on the Motueka aerodrome radio frequency. He had noted in his post event report that Inflight were the only operator on the day flying and that two other itinerant aircraft were picked up by radio when calling to land at Motueka but were turned away.

Mr Maguire has coordinated flights between drag races and Inflight more recently, which has worked. This decision was not designed to allow all flights or recreational users access to the airfield when a drag meet is on.

It was decided that Operators could look at;

- a) the length of the NOTAM; and
- b) the communication process for prior approval

Succession planning was also discussed. Mr Mark Woodhouse offered to work along Mr Maguire, in an event he wished to retire from the role. Mr Woodhouse could step in.

Opportunities

Nelson Airport were not renewing hangar leases, this decision has caused interest in applications for hangar owners wanting to relocate their hangars to Motueka Aerodrome, it could also have an effect on Takaka.

Mr Batt outlined to the group that operating costs had gone up at the aerodrome considerably. It was considered that an updated financial costing exercise was needed, to ensure current charges were up to date.

The bus shelter was removed from the reserve area. This was requested by the Lions Club who wished to relocate it to a better used area.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

The group discussed the MOU that had been updated and circulated to users previously. The Users had no objections to the MOU and were ready to sign. As some people needing to sign had not attended the meeting. Ms Ewing would get the final version, with a separate signing sheet out to the named users in the document.

Mr Batt will also be updating the aerodrome's AIP and will be working with Mr Woodhouse regarding this.

Emergency Procedures

Mr Batt outlined that there were two options for ensuring that emergency procedures were current, and services were informed.

1. A full Simulated crash scenario; or
2. Regular onsite engagement over a three-year cycle with Emergency agencies such as FENZ, St Johns and Police involved. On the third year a full crash scenario can be replicated.

Users agreed with the second approach was better as it kept emergency services up to date on a more regular cycle.

7. General Business

No further items were discussed, and Mr Batt closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 11.34 am.

Next meeting: – 8 November 2023

Action Log – 12 July 2023

Action	Status	Assigned to:
A large area of loose stones needs to be returned by the fuel pump. (Northern side of the pump).	Discussions have progressed with roading, budget seems to be available. Scope of job and budgets are being discussed.	Christina Ewing
Diamond Grid Check	It was expressed from the group the area was not so muddy and action could be removed.	Christina Ewing
AIP for Motueka to be updated with Taxiways and protocols- Bring draft AIP to next meeting.	Ongoing – Mark Woodhouse offered to help Mr Batt if needed.	Stephen Batt
MOU to be updated with current users and reflect any other necessary changes	The document would be recirculated with separate back sign off sheet.	Christina Ewing
Trim Oak trees between FENZ and NAC	Ongoing	Christina Ewing
Speak to Council planners regarding is it possible to have a noise plan boundary for the aerodrome.	Ongoing	Stephen Batt