

Notes of the Motueka Aerodrome Advisory Group meeting

Date: Thursday 19 June 2014 at 2.30 pm
Venue: Motueka Service Centre Boardroom, 7 Hickmott Place, Motueka

Present: Barry Dowler (Chair)
Stuart Bean
Jeremy Anderson (Commercial Users representative)
John Richards (Recreational Users Representative)
John Gourdie (Nelson Drag Racing Association)
Richard Horrell (Motueka Community Board)
Gene Cooper (Commercial Manager, TDC)
Jim Frater (Property Services Manager, TDC)
Valerie Gribble (Executive Assistant, TDC)

1. Minutes – 14 February 2014.

Independent Member Appointment - Mr Milne has declined the offer to join the group.

Mr Bean to speak to Bill Coppins to see if he would be interested in joining the Motueka Advisory Group and if he accepts, Cr Dowler to confirm appointment with Cr King.

Ross Troughton has only applied for consent to build a maintenance hangar with office, smoko room, meeting room and basic facilities. A rental assessment is being done on the hangar and car parking.

Mr Frater asked if the was group happy to allow Mr Troughton to be there as it is an exception to the development plan because accommodation is not now being provided? A clause could be included to say provision is to be made for accommodation in the future. This is a one-off situation for a maintenance provider who needs power which is not provided in the other development areas. The lease is for 35 years with rent reviews every three years. The group agreed it wasn't an issue.

Moved John/Jeremy

That the variation of the use of the proposed Troughton hanger to exclude accommodation be approved but the lease provide for the ability to provide accommodation.

Carried

2. Introduction

Cr Dowler introduced Gene Cooper, Commercial Officer to the group. Gene advised the group what his role entailed.

3. Review of Terms of Reference

Mr Frater spoke of the Ombudsman's request for the MOU to be reviewed. He has asked that an annual review of the MOU be undertaken with the Operations and Safety Committee, then be reported back to this group. He wants a meeting to be held with anybody else who is interested, to give an opportunity for them to give feedback on the MOU. The Committee is not obliged to make any changes as a result of feedback. The group decided they would agree to a review for next year. Mr Frater undertook to amend the MOU and circulate it to members of the Advisory Group. It was noted that it is not only aeroplanes from Motueka Aerodrome flying in the area of complaint.

- Annual review of MOU
- Advisory Group to have community liaison role
- Reporting now will be through the Commercial Manager.
- Amend name of the Advisory group in Management Plan.

Moved Stuart/Jeremy

That the following changes to the Advisory Group Terms of Reference be approved (Annual review of MOU, Advisory Group to have community liaison role, reporting now will be through the Commercial Manager, amendment to name of group from "User" to Advisory").

Carried

4. Nelson Drag Racing Association Debrief

The debrief of the 2013 / 2014 drag racing events took place. John Gourdie advised that the Nelson Drag Racing Association conducted 3 of the 4 meetings last year, as one was rained off. There was no use of lay days.

Pre-event inspection process and set up was revised last year. There is a clear and defined area that the group is to check prior to an event. It has been going smoothly. They are finding consistent debris at the start of the event and have photographed this at each event. A Council representative has been given photos. (The Advisory Group asked for the photographs to be passed on.) There have been screws and rubber bands off parachutes found.) It is predominantly on the sealed runway, but stuff was found on the grass runway as well.

Crowd control areas have been further defined and they know the area they need to be responsible for. Security is engaged for the day and have taken on more responsibility. At the far gates, where there is access into the A&P grounds and camping ground, there is a security guard on duty.

Management of aircraft activity has been working well. Jim Maguire has done a wonderful job and when he hasn't been there, others were there to liaise with the event co-ordinator.

Mr Frater commented on issues where itinerant travellers have radioed through and said they were going to land. They obviously had not read the NOTAMs. They were allowed to land but should have been told the aerodrome was closed.

Mr Bean said the aviation person on the ground is well within their rights to say no, the airport is closed, go to Nelson.

Runway and markings - Mr Gourdie said the Drag Club is mindful of the fact that they have a responsibility to remove excessive rubber build up on painted markings. Jim Frater that the piano keys down the northern end were starting to darken up significantly.

Note: Jim Frater has discussed the rubber build up with Council engineers who say it will not cause damage to the runway. The rubber will have to be removed before the markings can be repainted. This will probably be in Spring or Summer of this year.

Post event clean up – after revision and redefinition of areas, this area has improved again. The Club photographs evidence of anything that comes off at the end of the day and Mr Frater has that. Post-event sign-off documents have been expanded on and signed off at end of the day and forwarded through.

Mr Anderson said they do a walk over on a Monday. 12 months ago there was a lot of stuff, but since the new system was implemented, there has not been much.

Mr Gourdie said improvements have been made and the process is working well. Moving forward we need to do our job well.

Mr Frater undertook to take the matter of grass growth encroaching onto the sealed runway up with the contractor again, as it is part of the maintenance contract.

Mr Bean concurred that the grass is starting to compromise the runway and needs to be sprayed.

Mr Gourdie noted there had been underground trenching around one of the strainer posts as noted in Mr Frater's inspection report. The Drag Club would like to have a working bee at northern end of runway to do work on the concrete pad and remarking and have a general tidy up, prior to the season commencing. The soil immediately behind the burnout trough needs some attention. Mr Gourdie appreciates the relationship with the Council.

Calendar for 2015 – yet to be confirmed by TDC and NZDRA – 8 November 2014, 6 December 2014, 31 January 2015, with rain date immediately after if required, 4 April 2015 (Easter) with rain date.

Mr Frater is to forward Jim Maguire's report and any other information to the Advisory Group, also pre and post inspection reports and attachments.

No new developments or discretionary use applications.

Mr Frater advised that at the request of the A&P Association Council moved the fence and they said we were going to seal the entranceway. Mr Frater has no recollection of agreeing to do that work and the intention is to put it into the Long Term Plan next year.

Motueka Aerodrome Inspection of 27 May 2014 was tabled.

Jim Frater to get "Please keep gate shut" signs for gates.

Meeting concluded at 4.16 pm.