



SUNSHINE COAST AIRPORT COMMUNITY AVIATION FORUM

MINUTES

20 October 2020

Sunshine Coast Airport - Marcoola Meeting Room

Attendees

Chair	Mr Ron Brent
Buddina Flight Path Group	Ms Gwen Brown
Coolum Residents Association	Mr Mark Jones
Flight Path Forum	Ms Charlotte Wensley
Marcoola Community Group	Ms Susie Chapman
Marcoola Community Group	Mr Ken Keays
Marcoola South	Ms Dawn MacKinnon
Mudjimba Residents Association	Mr Martin Peelgrane
Noosa Shire Council	Cr Frank Wilkie (attended online)
Noosa Hinterland Residents Association	Ms Susan Crosser
Seaside Shores Community Association	Mr Richard Dennis
Twin Waters Residents Association	Mr Kevin Lyons
Yandina Creek Progress Association	Ms Cheryl Sykes (attended online)
Airservices Australia	Mr Craig Bradshaw, Acting Tower Manager
Airservices Australia	Ms Fiona Lawton, Community Engagement Manager (attended online)
Sunshine Coast Council	SCAEP Project Director Mr Ross Ullman
Sunshine Coast Airport	Chief Executive Officer Mr Andrew Brodie
Sunshine Coast Airport	General Manager Operations and Assets Mr Frank Mondello
Sunshine Coast Airport	Head of Corporate Relations Ayllie White
Sunshine Coast Airport	Chief Financial Officer, Mr Matthew Whyte
Sunshine Coast Airport	Secretariat Ms Emma O'Mara
Apologies	
Buderim War Memorial Community Association	Mrs Marilyn Keelty
Coolum Business and Tourism Association	Mark Cameron
East West Runway Action Group (EWRAG)	Ms Mary McLean
Flight Path Group	Ms Gwen Brown
North Shore Traders Association	Mr Paul King
Pacific Paradise Progress Association	Mr Warren Fraser
Yandina Creek Progress Association	Mr Phil Vivian
Sunshine Coast Council Division 8 Councillor	Mr Jason O'Pray
State Member for Maroochydore	Ms Fiona Simpson
State Member for Ninderry	Mr Dan Purdie
State Member for Noosa	Ms Sandy Bolton
Federal Member for Fairfax	Mr Ted O'Brien

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed all members and acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land and paid respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

He also acknowledged the length in time since the last meeting, on 4 December 2019, due to COVID-19 and proposed a new action list be established.

He also reiterated the Sunshine Coast Airport's (SCA) commitment to engaging with the community regarding various matters.

2. SCA general update – SCA Chief Executive Officer Andrew Brodie

Refer to slides 3 – 5 of the presentation pack.

SCA Chief Executive Andrew Brodie explained the challenges the airport faced as a result of COVID-19.

He added that the downturn had provided SCA an opportunity to reevaluate its business and operations.

He also acknowledged the reduction in jet services and subsequent increase in General Aviation (GA) activity.

3. SCA operations update – SCA General Manager Operations and Assets Frank Mondello

Refer to slides 6 – 12 of the presentation pack.

SCA General Manager Operations and Assets Frank Mondello acknowledged the opening of the new runway 13/31 which occurred on 14 June 2020 and the subsequent airspace change process.

He also advised that work as part of the Sunshine Coast Airport Expansion Project being delivered by Sunshine Coast Council was continuing, with improved taxiways and expanded apron areas nearing completion, expected in December 2020, weather permitting.

4. Proposed CAF web page – SCA Head of Corporate Relations Ayllie White

Refer to slide 13 of the presentation pack.

SCA Head of Corporate Relations Ayllie White referred to recent correspondence issued to CAF members on 13 October 2020 which sought endorsement for a dedicated CAF webpage to feature information regarding Forum membership, meeting content and terms of reference.

Action:

The Chair noted that the establishment of the proposed CAF webpage was endorsed and requested that SCA action.

5. Airservices update – Airservices Community and Engagement Manager Fiona Lawton

Refer to slides 14 – 35 of the presentation pack.

Airservices Australia (ASA) Community Engagement Manager Fiona Lawton attended online and gave her apologies for not being physically present due to an injury.

She introduced Acting Tower Manager, Craig Bradshaw, who provided an overview of the current challenges his team had faced, including:

- Transitioning to operations on the new runway 13/31;
- Temporary changes to staffing and standard tower hours, with it currently operating between 7.30am and 5.30pm each day, with the anticipation it would return to normal by February 2021.
- Total aircraft movements were down only 10 percent when compared with the same time last year.

Post Implementation Review

Ms Lawton advised that ASA's Post Implementation Review (PIR) process had commenced. She encouraged Forum members to visit the [Engage Airservices](#) website which housed more information. Further, she advised that the consultation period for the PIR's draft Terms of Reference (TOR) would close on 1 November and thanked those who had provided feedback to date.

Ms Lawton explained that typically, the PIR process involved a desktop study, on-ground monitoring and investigation of alternatives, but acknowledged the reduction in RPT (Regular Public Transport) aircraft movements due to COVID-19 meant it would take longer to obtain data.

Draft Flight Path Design Principles

Ms Lawton advised that findings from national stakeholder consultation on ASA's Draft Flight Path Design Principles had been released. Further information is available on the Engage Airservices website.

Draft Community Engagement Framework

Ms Lawton advised that ASA had released its draft Community Engagement Framework which outlined its approach to engagement around flight path and airspace changes. Again, further information is available on the Engage Airservices website.

Aircraft in Your Neighbourhood

Ms Lawton also provided a demonstration on the recently launched [Aircraft in Your Neighbourhood](#) platform which provides insights and data. The high number of general aviation (GA) related complaints was discussed.

6. Sunshine Coast General Aviation movements

Ms Lawton presented information regarding aircraft movements, focussing on GA and helicopter operations in recent years. Refer to slides 36 – 52 of the presentation pack.

Ms White said SCA acknowledged community interest in the level of general aviation activity. She also outlined the roles of ASA, SCA and CASA when it came to managing GA activity (refer to slide 53) and acknowledged that GA aircraft are not required to follow published flight paths.

Mudjimba Residents Association (MRA) representative Martin Peelgrane raised that GA aircraft in Sunshine Coast airspace that originated from other ports was a key issue.

7. Draft Fly Neighbourly Agreements – SCA Head of Corporate Relations Ayllie White

Ms White reminded CAF members the draft Fly Neighbourly Agreements had been issued for comment and requested feedback by 27 October 2020. Ms White added that the Fly Neighbourly Agreements are voluntary based agreements and SCA will publish information on those operators that have voluntarily signed up to the agreements.

Action:

The Chair encouraged all members to provide feedback on the draft Fly Neighbourly Agreements by 27 October 2020.

8. Mudjimba Residents Association presentation – Martin Peelgrane

Mr Peelgrane provided a presentation on behalf of the MRA. Refer to slides 55 – 81 of the presentation pack. The presentation:

- Identified low flying helicopters, low flying GA aircraft and late night flights as key issues for residents in Mudjimba.
- Highlighted possible measures to address key issues experienced by Mudjimba residents including:
 - suggesting operators keep to ‘centre line’ of the flight path before crossing the coast;
 - review the Noise Abatement Procedures (NAP); and
 - reversing the preferred runway procedures to reduce the number of residents impacted. It was noted that not all CAF members supported the reversal of the preferred runway direction at this stage.

Mr Peelgrane also questioned the ASA complaints process. The Chair explained that the complaints process was ‘issues based’, not ‘volume based’. Ms Lawton assured that all complaints were recorded and tracked against an individual complainant. The Chair advised that anyone could make as many complaints as they wished.

The Chair commended Mr Peelgrane’s presentation and the approach to solutions-focused alternatives. He also commented on a comparison to Broome airport, noting that he had been consulted (as Aircraft Noise Ombudsman) on noise management at Broome airport. The reference to that Airport is an interesting comparison although it should be noted that Broome airport could impose more robust NAPs and Fly Neighbourly Policies because it was an isolated airport and aircraft types differed.

Action:

MRA to formally submit key suggestions outlined in the presentation to ASA as part of the PIR.

The Airport to consider the issues raised in the context of the updated draft Fly Neighbourly Agreement.

9. Questions

Coolum Residents Association representative Mark Jones questioned what range in altitude SCA airspace covers.

- Mr Bradshaw explained it was approximately 4,500 feet in an upside-down ‘tiered wedding cake’ model.

Flight Path Forum representative Ms Charlotte Wensley questioned whether flights that operate visual flight rules are still under tower control.

- Ms Bradshaw explained air traffic controllers advise pilots how to join circuits and at what height to fly.

Ms Wensley also questioned how long ASA expected to consider community feedback on draft ToR for the PIR.

- Ms Lawton said it would be dependent on the volume of feedback received, but ASA intended to commence the next phase before Christmas.

Ms Wensley queried a proposed northern flight path route discussed at the initial PIR.

- Ms Lawton advised it was a not community suggested alternative and was discussed at the initial PIR Terms of Reference meeting to demonstrate how the flight path principles would apply.

Mr Peelgrane queried why airport tenants were not represented at the CAF. The Chair advised they had previously attended but the decision was made to engage with tenants in a more targeted way to address their specific needs. This followed some meetings in which the tenants issued had completely dominated the meetings at the expense of community participation.

10. Closing

Noosa Hinterland Residents Association representative Susan Crosser thanked SCA for the opportunity to attend the CAF. Noosa Council Cr Frank Wilkie also extended his thanks and advised that Noosa Council would also review the ToR for the PIR.

The Chair outlined actions ahead of the next meeting which have been noted in the table below:

ACTION TABLE

Meeting date	Action	Responsible officer	Date due
20/10/2020	CAF website	Ayllie White, SCA	Next meeting
20/10/2020	Draft Fly Neighbourly Agreement comments due	All members	27 October 2020
20/10/2020	MRA key suggestions to be submitted to ASA	Martin Peelgrane, MRA	As part of PIR process
20/10/2020	Dates for 2021 CAF meetings to be proposed	Ayllie White, SCA	Next meeting

20/10/2020	SCA to consider issues raised in Mr Peelgrane's presentation in the context of the draft Fly Neighbourly Agreement	Ayllie White, SCA	Next meeting
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Draft