



**Minutes of the Queenstown Airport Liaison Committee held at Queenstown Airport  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

**Present:** Jane Taylor (Chair)  
Colin Keel (QAC CEO)  
Mike Clay (QAC GM Operations & Safety)  
Ian Ferguson (Airline representative, BARNZ) (by telephone)  
Eleanor Trueman (QAC Noise Administrator, Minutes)  
Clayton Lightfoot (Airways)  
Steve Mclsaac (Community Representative),  
Greg Miller (Community Representative)

**Apologies:** Dave Matthews (General Aviation)  
Scott Freeman (Community Representative)

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

The meeting commenced at 6:20pm.

The Chair welcomed participants to the meeting and declared the meeting open.

**2. Residents to Address QALC**

There were no residents or complainants that wished to address the Committee at this meeting.

Colin, Jane, Eleanor and Clayton met with Clarke Pirie, Chair of the Shotover and Lake Hayes Estate Residents' Association, prior to the QALC meeting to discuss representation on QALC from that area, together with a recent noise issue. Clarke was assured that even though there are noise complaint restriction covenants on the area's residential titles, QAC treat all neighbours as equals and encourages complainants to get in touch by completing a QAC noise complaint form on the QAC website, or by emailing [noise@queenstownairport.co.nz](mailto:noise@queenstownairport.co.nz).

Clarke undertook to let the Association members know how to complain about noise – using the QAC website form as opposed to directly contacting the Residents' Association.

When discussing a particular noise complaint, which Eleanor undertook to address, Clarke advised that he became aware that the resident was unaware of the no-complaints covenant. There is some concern that other property owners in both Lake Hayes Estate and Shotover Country may also be unaware of this covenant. QAC will nonetheless address any noise complaints; however, expressed concern at the lack of apparent knowledge of the covenant by some residents.

In order to add an extra committee member, the Noise Management Plan (NMP) requires updating, which is something that the Committee has been looking at for some time. Under the NMP, any new Committee members are to be appointed by Council to maintain independence. Changes to the NMP need to be agreed to by QLDC. Although a broader review of the entire NMP was previously

contemplated by QAC, at this stage QALC intends to suggest amendments to Chapter 2 only, which covers membership and governance of the Committee – quorums, tenure and representation.

***ACTION – Jane to follow up about Chapter 2 of the NMP with Rachel, and to circulate any recommended changes before next Committee meeting***

After the new members are admitted to QALC, Jane has suggested a training session around noise, how it is measured, and how differently people can be affected by it. The suggestion is to include Rachel Tregidga regarding planning, Mike Clay regarding contours and mitigation, and a tour of the Tower from Clayton.

***ACTION - After new representation on the Committee is finalised, progress with organising training sessions, which would also be open to all members. Eleanor to action***

### **3. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes from the Queenstown Airport Liaison Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2018 were approved true and correct record, with one change as follows.

Colin proposed an update to the minutes from the 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and the following wording was agreed:

*QAC is realigning its long-term master planning activities for both Queenstown and Wanaka airports to take account of other long-term planning initiatives being undertaken by QLDC, including the master plans for Frankton, Wanaka and other planning initiatives. As part of this process, QAC will further evaluate its proposal for changes to the noise boundaries at Queenstown Airport.*

There were no Matters Arising from this meeting.

### **4. Standing Agenda Items**

#### *4.1 Aircraft Activities*

During Nov, Dec and Jan there were 8900 movements:

- Scheduled airline up 14% in Nov, 12% in Dec, and 12% in Jan compared to last year.
- General Aviation was down 0.5% in Nov, 2.5% in Dec and 10% in Jan compared to last year.
- Helicopter movements were down 15% in Nov, 7% in Dec and 19 % and Jan compared to last year.

Key contributors to these decreases in activity are wind, weather and Milford closures.

Operators are also seeing a tapering in the demand in-terms of passenger numbers and movements. This trend is likewise across the tourism sector, with tapering demand across the country. Hong Kong airlines, and Air Asia have pulled out of AKL. Overall QAC is seeing an increase in growth, but at a slower rate (albeit still positive). The Committee commented that it will be interesting to see how a softness in the market affects noise complaints.

As a result of Helitours going into liquidation, their operation at the end of runway 05 has now ceased. The SLT at QAC has since agreed that the space formerly occupied by Helitours will not be used for another helicopter operator. It was noted that Helitours would have been moved as part of the Northern Rotary Project; however, the sudden liquidation of Helitours has brought forward the timing of the removal of the operator from that site.

#### *4.2 Unplanned engine testing*

No unplanned engine tests occurred.

### 4.3 Complaints register summary

The three complaints received were discussed at length. The Committee acknowledged the full responses that had been provided by QAC and Airways in an endeavour to provide the information requested by complainants, and to resolve the complaints where possible.

It is anticipated that as a result of the operator ceasing activities at the end of runway 05 the number of complaints from Frankton residents regarding helicopters will reduce.

## 5. Operational Report

Noise contours are getting reasonably close to the boundaries and QAC are now voluntarily measuring noise every year. This is occurring during February 2019. Annual measurement is more than QAC is required to do according to the NMP, which is every three years.

Northern Rotary Precinct - This project is now likely to take place in the first half of 2019 and will be located at Arranmore farm. QAC has been working with Heritage NZ, QLDC and Wakatipu Heritage Trust to preserve the remaining buildings and have now got go ahead from Heritage NZ to continue.

Noise Management Plan (NMP) Update - Work on the updates to the NMP is still on-going. Proposed changes to Chapter 2 will be brought to the next meeting, as set out above.

Apron Overlay Project – 55,000 m<sup>2</sup> was resurfaced and this was due to finish on 15<sup>th</sup> Dec, however the project was extended to the 20<sup>th</sup> Dec, then remobilised on 8th Jan due primarily to the weather conditions. A complaint was received from a McBride Street resident about the continuing noise post Christmas, which prompted a letter to be distributed updating all residents on the progress of the project. QAC had apologised for omitting to update residents on the delays to the project and the estimated completion date, and undertook to ensure that this happened in a timely manner in future.

The Apron project has been very successful and exciting on the sustainability front and has been put forward for several sustainability awards. 1.5 million glass beer bottles and 330,000 toner cartridges' worth of toner, which is a hardening agent for asphalt, were used during the works.

***ACTION – Eleanor to share video from Downer with the Committee.***

An outcome of the apron overlay is that the new markings on the ground have enabled increased efficiencies for airfield operations – wing tip separation etc. - and this has increased usability of the airfield.

### Noise Mitigation Programme

The Operations report was noted and discussed.

It was noted and agreed that the time scale for construction of mid noise mitigation works is now revised into the second quarter of 2019.

## 6. General Business

Jane advised the Committee that she was unfortunately unable to make the 12th of May scheduled date.

The suggested dates for Committee in 2019 are:

- Monday 12th May
- Monday 12th August
- Monday 11th November

***ACTION – Eleanor and Jane to discuss a suitable date and circulate to the Committee for approval.***

Simon Battrick at the Events Centre has requested a copy of the updated contours once they have been presented to QALC. Eleanor has let him know that this will be provided after the QALC May meeting.

***ACTION – Eleanor to forward copy of the contours after the May meeting.***

\*Please note that we do have tele-conferencing facilities available. This can be used if you are unable to make it into the offices for the meeting. Please let Eleanor know and she will forward you the details.

Meeting closed at 7:10pm.



## **Minutes of the Queenstown Airport Liaison Committee held at Queenstown Airport**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

**Present:** Jane Taylor (Chair)  
Colin Keel (QAC CEO)  
Mike Clay (QAC GM Operations & Safety)  
Eleanor Trueman (QAC Noise Administrator, Minutes)  
Clayton Lightfoot (Airways)  
Steve McIsaac (Community Representative)  
Dave Matthews (General Aviation)

**Apologies:** Ian Ferguson (Airline representative, BARNZ)  
Scott Freeman (Community Representative)  
Greg Miller (Community Representative)  
Alana Standish (QLDC)

### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

The meeting commenced at 6:15pm. The Chair welcomed participants to the meeting and declared the meeting open.

A reminder was issued that if a member is unable to make the meeting, they are encouraged to send a representative on their behalf instead.

### **2. Residents to Address QALC**

Mark McGuinness attended the meeting and addressed the Committee. He has a property on the ridge at Dalefield. He extended his thanks for the invitation to address the Committee. He purchased his house and land in December 2018, although he has not resided there permanently to date. On the 9<sup>th</sup> of March, the air traffic over his property was very noticeable and for 15 minutes he and his wife could not talk outside because of the noise generated by aircraft flying overhead. He finds fixed wing tend to be louder, drone and feel lower. He expressed concerned in relation to the flight path logs for that day subsequently provided to him, which recorded a total of 62 flights over the property. He questioned whether there was an opportunity to change routes, go higher, or do we remain in status quo?

In response to a question from the Committee, Mr McGuinness advised that the vendor of the property, who had been a long-time resident, had not given any warning of the noise associated with light aircraft.

In summary, Mr McGuinness advised that he was finding the noise extremely intrusive and believes that this will incentivise people to form groups and to start to make legal challenges. As result, he was incentivised to find out what can be done to mitigate aircraft noise from this route.

The CEO of QAC noted that normally the Committee tends to hear more complaints regarding noise from people who reside at the end of runway, however QAC do take all complaints seriously. He explained that ZQN does have set flight plans both for scheduled and other aviation. For general aviation, there are multiple trajectories, which does help to disperse aircraft noise. However, the Dalefield route is one of the traditional routes for Milford and can be very busy on good flying days. He mentioned that the “Fly-neighbourly” policy is something that the operators have adhered to and that operators have been investing in newer, quieter aircraft, which also assists with noise mitigation.

A discussion was held, which focused on the patterns associated with general aviation in the District, the volumes of general aviation traffic to Milford (which have not returned to the 2007 peaks) and which see Milford flights on only around 42 to 46% of days annually due to weather, aircraft characteristics and the limits imposed by DOC on concession holders.

By way of mitigation, the Committee discussed two potential avenues: first, ensuring that operators adhere to the Shotover river flight path, which may assist to mitigate Mr McGuinness’ particular situation, and secondly, investigating the possibility of aircraft adding further height before reaching the Dalefield Road area.

Mr McGuinness thanked Committee and left the meeting at 7pm.

The Committee noted that there is a lack of information about flight paths for new people moving into the area. A suggestion was made that an information evening for local estate agents would be a good way to help disseminate information to people who wish to purchase in the area, so that they become informed of potential noise issues.

Equally, a question was raised as to whether there some way that QLDC can notify purchasers, such as via LIM reports, that a property is in the proximity to a flight path.

Actions are as follows:

***ACTION - Alana and Eleanor to discuss LIM report query***

***ACTION – Clayton to issue a reminder to operators about flying over the river***

***ACTION – Eleanor to let MIM know about when this reminder has been sent out.***

***ACTION – Get full picture for 9<sup>th</sup> March flight paths – Clayton***

***ACTION – Organise information evening for real-estate agents – Eleanor and Committee***

### **3. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes from the Queenstown Airport Liaison Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019 were approved as a true and correct record.

There were no Matters Arising from this meeting.

### **4. Standing Agenda Items**

#### **4.1 Aircraft Activities**

The Committee noted the number of movements at the Airport for the three-month period to the end of April 2019.

#### **4.2 Unplanned engine testing**

No unplanned engine tests occurred.

#### **4.3 Complaints register summary**

A discussion was held regarding the number of complaints from one resident; reassurance was given by QAC that the resident is confident to complain and happy with the response and actions carried out by QAC.

## **5. Operational Report**

The Operational Report was taken as read.

### **Noise Management Plan**

The proposed changes set out in Appendix B of notices was discussed. A suggestion was made during the meeting to change the following sentence:

*Representatives will initially be appointed for a period of three years, with the option of a further three-year term by mutual consent. TO,*

*Representatives will initially be appointed for a period of three years, with the option of further terms of up to three years by mutual consent.*

The members of the Committee who were present were in agreement with the proposed changes. However, due to a quorum not being present, this proposed amendment to the Noise Management Plan will be circulated to all members for email approval.

***ACTION - After new representation on the Committee is finalised, progress with organising noise training sessions, which would also be open to all members. Eleanor to action***

***ACTION – circulate the proposed changes to the NMP to the Committee for approval. Eleanor and Jane.***

Eleanor, Jane and QAC will send a full update to the NMP, which will comprise more substantial changes, for consideration prior to the August meeting.

### **Noise Mitigation Programme**

A discussion focusing on some of the houses was held. The Committee noted that overall, the programme was progressing well.

## **6. General Business**

Dave Matthews has advised he is leaving The Helicopter Line and moving to Whangaparoa, north of Auckland and that as a result he will be resigning as the QMUG representative on the Committee. The Committee thanked him for his time, efforts and work with the Committee and in particular his outstanding work on the fly friendly policy development, general aviation and all-round hard work. The Committee wished him well for the future.

As a result of the vacancy left by Dave, a new representative from QMUG is required.

***ACTION – Eleanor and Jane to draft a letter to QMUG to seek a new representative. This must be done in time for the QMUG meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019***

Following dates are for next committee meetings

- Monday 19th August (Clayton has sent apologies for this meeting, due to being on leave)
- Monday 11th November

***ACTION – Eleanor to forward copy of the contours after the May meeting – now updated to be in time for next meeting in August.***

Meeting closed at 8:05pm



**Minutes of the Queenstown Airport Liaison Committee held at Queenstown Airport  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

**Present:** Jane Taylor (Chair)  
Mike Clay (QAC GM Operations & Safety)  
Eleanor Trueman (QAC Noise Administrator, Minutes)  
Jon Brooks (Airways)  
Steve McIsaac (Community Representative)  
Greg Miller (Community Representative)  
Alana Standish (QLDC)  
Ian Ferguson (Airline representative, BARNZ) – by telephone

**Apologies:** Colin Keel (QAC CEO)  
Scott Freeman (Community Representative)  
Grant Stewart (General Aviation)

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

The meeting commenced at 6:15pm.

The Chair welcomed participants to the meeting and declared the meeting open.

The Chair noted that Grant Stewart has agreed to be the new General Aviation representative on the Committee in place of Dave Matthews.

**2. Residents to Address QALC**

There were no residents wishing to address the meeting.

Following on from the last meeting the following actions had updates:

**ACTION - Alana and Eleanor to discuss LIM report query** – Discussion occurred, and Alana will follow up with QLDC building team

**ACTION – Clayton to issue a reminder to operators about flying over the river** – Jon Brooks to re-issue at next QMUG meeting

**ACTION – Eleanor to let MM know when this reminder has been sent out** – Jon Brooks to confirm with Eleanor when actioned

**ACTION – Get full picture for 9<sup>th</sup> March flight paths – Clayton** – These are now received – Eleanor to contact Mark McGuinness and forward them

**ACTION – Organise information evening for real-estate agents – Eleanor and Committee** – Work up some awareness statements to be issued to estate agents



### **3. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes from the Queenstown Airport Liaison Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were approved as a true and correct record.

### **4. Standing Agenda Items**

#### **4.1 Aircraft Activities**

The Committee noted the number of movements at the Airport for the three-month period to the end of July 2019.

Scheduled airline landings showed a 6% growth in July and May, and a 4% growth in June, all compared to 2018.

Helicopter movements have reduced over the last few months due to the weather – lack of snow, lack of heli-skiing and poor weather. July 2019 figures are down 21% from 2018, with movements in May and June down 29% and 24% from 2018.

Fixed wing is down 43%, 19% and 18% in comparison to May, June and July 2018. Again, this is weather related.

#### **4.2 Unplanned engine testing**

No unplanned engine tests occurred.

#### **4.3 Complaints register summary**

Taken as read

### **5. Operational Report**

The Operational Report was taken as read. A number of matters were discussed, including progress with the northern rotary precinct.

***ACTION: QAC to prepare briefing pack on temporary northern rotary precinct and make available to the Committee.***

#### **Noise contours**

The Committee was advised that the noise contour information is not yet in a form that can be made available for review.

The Committee requested that the updated noise contours be supplied at the next meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> November, in order that they discharge their monitoring responsibilities in a timely fashion, as this action is now overdue. QAC undertook to ensure that the updated noise contours were provided on 11<sup>th</sup> November for the Committee's review.

#### **Noise Management Plan**

The changes to the NMP as agreed by the Committee have been added into a draft updated NMP.

***ACTION: Eleanor to meet with Rachel to discuss progress for finalising any further changes to the NMP and when this can be distributed to the Committee***

***ACTION: QAC to prepare and finalise NMP***

***ACTION - After new representation on the Committee is finalised, noise training sessions will be organised, which would also be open to all members. Eleanor to action***

### **Noise Mitigation Programme**

The report was taken as read. An update on the noise mitigation programme was given verbally – this now sits under QAC Project Delivery and has been removed from Facilities & Infrastructure.

### **6. General Business**

No general business was recorded.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 11th November.

Meeting closed at 7:07 pm



**Minutes of the Queenstown Airport Liaison Committee held at Queenstown Airport  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

**Present:** Jane Taylor (Chair)  
Colin Keel (QAC CEO)  
Mike Clay (QAC GM Operations & Safety)  
Eleanor Trueman (QAC Noise Administrator, Minutes)  
Clayton Lightfoot (Airways)  
Greg Miller (Community Representative)  
Justin Tighe-Umbers (Airline representative, BARNZ)  
Grant Stewart (General Aviation)  
David Gray (The Building Intelligence Group – noise mitigation)

**Apologies:** Scott Freeman (Community Representative)  
Steve McIsaac (Community Representative)  
Alana Standish (QLDC)

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

The meeting commenced at 6:15pm.

The Chair welcomed participants to the meeting, in particular the new General Aviation representative Grant Stewart, Justin Tighe-Umbers representing the Airlines and BARNZ and David Gray, of the Building Intelligence Group now contracted to carry out the mitigation works, and declared the meeting open.

**2. Residents to Address QALC**

There were no residents wishing to address the meeting.

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes from the Queenstown Airport Liaison Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019 were approved as a true and correct record.

**4. Standing Agenda Items**

**4.1 Aircraft Activities**

The Committee noted the number of movements at the Airport for the three-month period to the end of October 2019.

Scheduled airline landings showed a 7% growth in Aug, a 6% growth in Sept and a 4% growth in Oct, all compared to 2018. It was noted that the rate of growth is slowing and tapering in comparison to 2018, which was at 11%.

Helicopter movements have reduced over the past three months due to the weather – lack of snow, lack of heli-skiing and adverse weather. August 2019 figures are down 20% from 2018, with movements in Sept and Oct up 3.2% and down 27% from 2018. This is an average of a 16% decrease overall.

Fixed wing is down 34%, 9% and 37% in comparison to Aug, Sept and Oct 2018. Again, this is weather related.

#### **4.2 Unplanned engine testing**

No unplanned engine tests occurred.

#### **4.3 Complaints register summary**

The report was taken as read.

The Committee discussed the nature of the complaints, which involved the height of helicopters approaching the airport over Frankton; and noise associated with general aviation departing towards the south (near to the Ramada hotel) and “cutting the corners” over the Quail Rise/Tuckers Beach Road area on departure to the north.

***ACTION – Grant Stewart to meet with Mr Ewan of the Ramada, and Clayton Lightfoot to send a reminder to all GA operators with respect to the fly friendly routes over the Shotover River.***

### **5. Operational Report**

The Operational Report was taken as read. The temporary northern rotary precinct – QMUG has been briefed, and a supplement the AIP has been incorporated. This is a trial precinct for 3 years. Significantly contaminated soil has been removed from the site.

#### **Noise contours**

The 2018 Compliance Annual Aircraft Noise Contours (AANC) were presented to the Committee.

It was noted that Queenstown Airport is compliant and operating within their noise contours.

QAC is undertaking more annual noise monitoring this summer and loggers will be in the same locations as last year.

The Committee noted that Aircraft Noise Monitoring is now a yearly occurrence, as opposed to the required 3 yearly occurrence that is mandated by the Noise Management plan.

#### **Noise Management Plan**

The changes to the NMP as agreed by the Committee have been added into the NMP. QLDC is currently recruiting two new Committee members.

***ACTION - After new representation on the Committee is finalised, noise training sessions will be organised, which would also be open to all members. Eleanor to action***

#### **Noise Mitigation Programme**

The report was taken as read. An update on the noise mitigation programme was given verbally.

***ACTION – Eleanor to work with Jane to present the noise mitigation data table***

***ACTION – Eleanor to contact Wellington and other airports with regards to their noise mitigation works and potential learnings for QAC/the Building Intelligence Group***

## **6. General Business**

The Committee discussed the planned initiative to brief real estate agents on the general aviation flight paths. This will form an action for 2020, to be co-ordinated by Eleanor, Sara and Jane.

The Committee also discussed the need for, and approved, the Minutes of the QALC meetings to be accessible from the website, redacted as necessary to ensure the privacy of complainants.

***ACTION – Eleanor to send survey monkey round for dates for meetings next year***

Meeting closed at 7:22 pm