

GEORGE BEST BELFAST CITY AIRPORT FORUM
Minutes of Meeting No 96
Held on Tuesday 29 November 2022 at 7.45pm
VENUE: Conference Room 1, BCA

Attendees:

Mark Doherty (MD)	Belfast Harbour Commissioners
Carol Edwards (CE)	Forum Chair
Alderman Tom Haire (TH)	Belfast City Council
Kathy Graham (KG)	Deputy Forum Chair
David Courtenay (DC)	Department for Infrastructure
David McCambley (DM)	Belfast City Council
Alan Andrews (AA)	Hollywood Residents' Association
Mark Beattie (MB)	Belfast City Airport

In Attendance:

Ian Nuttall (IN)	Belfast City Airport
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1. APOLOGIES AND OPENING REMARKS

Apologies were received from -

Councillor Gillian Greer	Ards and North Down Borough Council
Dot Erskine	Tourism Northern Ireland
Alderman Bill Keery	Ards and North Down Borough Council
Richard Williams	Consumer Council
Alastair Curran	Belfast City Council
Daniel V McCaughan	Cultra Residents' Association
Councillor John Kyle	Belfast City Council
Raymond McNair	Belfast City Airport

Members agreed to CE's suggestion to send a get well card to RM on behalf of the Forum, following his recent accident.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Members agreed that the minutes represented an accurate record of the meeting held on 23 August 2022.

3. MATTERS ARISING

None.

4. RECRUITMENT OF COMMUNITY GROUPS

IN provided an update on efforts to recruit community groups to the Forum, including approaches to Belfast City Council and the Belfast Youth Council – both of which had to date

received no response. TH offered to raise our request with the Director of Community Development at the forthcoming Council meeting. TH also suggested approaching the East Belfast Network Centre at Templemore School as a potential link to groups.

IN explained plans to work with Lighthouse Communications in the New Year, to develop promotional materials and an article on the Forum for press publication

Action – TH, IN

5. AIRPORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MB provided an update on business activity. Key points discussed included the following:

- Passenger numbers have recently surpassed expectations and December is projected to be ahead of 2019 levels
- Continuing investment in the business includes reconfiguration of the short stay car park and redevelopment of the Aspire business lounge
- The recent opening of the airside Caffè Nero outlet
- The forthcoming introduction of new Standard 3 security measures (to be fully implemented by June 2024) allowing liquids and laptops to remain in bags during searches
- Investment in people continues with new commercial management posts, two new fire service apprentices and a programme of cost of living support measures for staff including additional payments
- Continuing discussion with Translink on improved surface access and rail linkages.

Discussion points following MB's report included the following:

- AA let the group know that Holywood has recently been awarded Medium Town runner up in the Best Kept Awards NI
- CE asked if the Airporter bus service would be stopping; MB confirmed that, following recent acquisition, a new service between LDY, BFS and DUB would not be including Belfast City Airport on its route. IN agreed to provide recent Airporter passenger figures
- DM advised the group of proposed track renewals on the Belfast/Bangor line; MB to check with Translink on details at the forthcoming meeting planned between GBBCA and Translink
- MB advised members of further roadworks due on the dual carriageway close to the Airport.

Action – IN

6. AIRPORT STATISTICS

Members were provided with the revised format for the statistics report which included 2019 data for comparison purposes.

AA asked if there would be any new overseas destinations next year; MB advised that this was unlikely at present.

7. GLOSSARY

CE reminded Members to review the Glossary of Terms and to advise of any suggested additions. DM offered to provide an improved noise definition for inclusion in the Glossary.

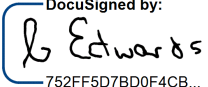
Action – DM, All

8. AOB

Corporate Responsibility Report – IN referred to the CR Report circulated to Members as an additional paper, highlighting recent support provided to organisations.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date to be confirmed.

Signed: 752FF5D7BD0F4CB...

Date: 14-01-2023 | 20:01 GMT

Carol Edwards, Forum Chair