

Minutes of the Consultative Committee Meeting held at

Leeds Bradford Airport

Thursday 26th June 2026

Members Present:

Alan Wrigley	Chairman
Heather Ruane	Leeds Bradford Airport Support Group
Cllr Marilyn Banister	Menston Parish Council
Cllr John Howard	Bramhope & Carlton Parish Council
Cllr Colin Campbell	Local Resident Rep (Yeadon end of runway)
Cllr Aiden Goulden	Horsforth Town Council
Cllr Raymond Jones	Leeds City Council (Lab)
Neil Whitaker	Unite the Union
Alan Moore	Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum
Paul Bone	Pool-in-Wharfedale Parish Council
Michael Brannan	Baildon Town Council
Paul Moss	Sherburn Arero Club

Members Apologies:

Cllr Richard Knowles	Baildon Town Council – Sub Michael Brannan
Cllr Jane Dowson	Inner North West Community Committee
Cllr Penny Robinson	Otley Town Council
Cllr Andy Paraskos	North Yorkshire County Council

Non Attendance:

Cllr Alex Mitchell	City of Bradford MDC
Peter Gable	Rawdon Parish Council

Airport Officers Present:

Charles Johnson	Head of Planning and Development
Jamie Babbin	Head of Air Traffic Services
Vincent Hodder	Chief Executive Officer
Declan Maguire	Aviation Director

Minutes taken by Elle Monk (Executive Support Coordinator).

1. Welcome & Apologies

The Chairman opened the meeting

Apologies had been received ahead of the meeting from:

Cllr Richard Knowles	Baildon Town Council – Sub Michael Brannan
Cllr Jane Dowson	Inner North West Community Committee
Cllr Penny Robinson	Otley Town Council
Cllr Andy Paraskos	North Yorkshire County Council

Changes to the ACC membership were announced.

No longer members:

Cllr Bob Felstead	Burley & Wharfedale Parish Council
Cllr Barry Anderson	Leeds City Council Conservative
Keith Batty	Vale of York Gliding Clubs
Martin Hughes	Local Resident (Horsforth end of runway)
Cllr Simon Downing	Horsforth Town Council
Cllr Stella Walsh	Yorkshire Local Councils Association

New members:

Cllr Aiden Goulden	Horsforth Ward Council
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2. Airspace Change Update

Jamie Babbitt (JB) provided an update on the airspace change programme.

JB confirmed that LBA has successfully passed stage 2 of the programme.

Additional funding has been secured to support the delivery of stage 3 of the programme. LBA is working collaboratively with TRAX to ensure successful progression through this stage. Stage 3 includes consultation with stakeholders, local communities and airspace users on the developed design options. Feedback is gathered and analysed to help refine the proposal. The consultation outcomes are documented and used to prepare the preferred option for submission in the next stage.

The full programme is expected to conclude in Q1 2028.

Q: Are there options that reduce the impact over Headingley?

A: One potential option would route aircraft over more green belt areas, including local golf courses. This will be decided as part of stage 3.

Q: Are there still options for aircraft to fly directly over the Chevin?

A: JB advised that routes would become clearer as options continue to be refined.

3. LBA:REGEN Update

Charles Johnson (CJ) provided an update on the ongoing regeneration of the airport. CJ confirmed that phase 2 of the works is progressing well.

4. Aviation Update

Declan Maguire (DM) attended his first ACC meeting to provide an aviation update. Key highlights from the update included:

Forecasted passenger numbers for April 26 – March 27 are 4.59 million
Current economic headwinds have resulted in a slight reduction in forecast demand
Jet2 continues to grow, with new routes expected next year
Ryanair capacity is increasing by 9.9%
EasyJet's operation remains stable but is more exposed to fuel market pressures heading into winter
EasyJet's Geneva route has been withdrawn due to fuel-related disruption

Q: Why are Palma and Malaga no longer on sale with EasyJet?

A: EasyJet has removed some marginal routes due to fuel pressures and network optimisation.

Q: Could further clarification be provided regarding jet fuel availability?

A: The Department for Transport Fuel Committee continues to monitor the situation. Current visibility indicates a positive outlook over the next four weeks. UK refineries have increased jet fuel allocation, with capacity expected to improve during the winter.

Q: Is the airport working with local travel agents to encourage use of Leeds Bradford Airport?

A: Our Travel Trade and Community Engagement Executive, Nathan Stephenson, works with travel agents to continuously encourage the use of LBA. Additionally, airlines continue to work with travel partners, including cruise operators such as Riviera, to offer preferential fares and baggage allowances.

Action: Nathan Stephenson to attend future ACC meeting to provide an update on the travel trade market.

Q: Are SunExpress planning to return?

A: There are currently no plans for Sun Express to return, although the Antalya market remains strong. Conversations with a number of other carriers are taking place with a view to filling the route operated by Sun Express.

Q: Is there any prospect of a Heathrow service returning?

A: British Airways would require an A320 operation, which represents significant capacity. Historic passenger volumes have not consistently supported the route and BA's current priorities lie elsewhere. Despite this, LBA continues to maintain strong European connectivity.

Q: Are KLM using the airbridges?

A: KLM's priority is operational punctuality, and airbridges are used where appropriate, particularly when carrying passengers requiring assistance. KLM has requested regular use of Gate 9 due to its proximity to the lounge.

5. CEO Update

Night Movements

Vincent Hodder (VH) confirmed that in May 2027, Leeds City Council (LCC) approved LBA's CLEUD application. This confirmed LBA is legally entitled to operate 941 movements of quieter aircrafts during night hours in addition to an annual 4,000 air traffic movements.

LCC confirmed that LBA was not in breach of its night time operational controls in 2023, 2024, 2025 and has not breached to date in 2026.

LCC and LBA continue to work together regarding the future of night flights.

Ownership

The ownership transaction between Aena and InfraBridge completed on the 7th May 2026. Aena now holds 51% ownership of Leeds Bradford Airport. VH shared that this is extremely positive for the airport,

with Aena bringing extensive airport management experience, with emphasis on reputation, corporate responsibility and maintaining positive relationships with neighbouring communities.

6. Any other business

Members raised concerns regarding passenger queueing times. LBA recognises that delivering major construction works within a live operational airport inevitably presents challenges, particularly during peak periods and busy holiday periods. We appreciate our passengers' patience and understanding throughout these works and remain committed to meeting our target SLAs for security queue times.

ACC members requested future discussions around resilience and emergency planning. Future agenda items will include attendance of Neil Perkis, Resilience and Emergency Planning Manager to discuss LBA resilience planning.

A question was raised regarding movements on Stand 22 and bussing requirements. Prior to the new terminal there were around 92 bussing movements. This has now reduced to approximately 9. Stand 22 is primarily used for overnight aircraft parking. The reduction in bussing has significantly improved the customer experience. Members welcomed the reduction in bussing operations.

The chair closed the meeting.

Next meeting date

23 September 2026