

**FURNEAUX GROUP AVIATION SPECIAL COMMITTEE**  
**Agenda**

**DATE:** Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017  
**VENUE:** Rose Garden Room, FAEC, Whitemark  
**COMMENCING:** 11.30am

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**PRESENT:**

Mayor Carol Cox	Chair
Cr P Rhodes	Council
Cr K Stockton	Council
Noel Bowland	(Sharp Airlines) RPT Operator
Michael Buck	Flinders Island Tourism & Business Assoc.
Ben Foot	Acting Airport Manager
John Loudon	Multi-Purpose Centre
Linda Nicol	Community Representative

**APOLOGIES:**

Peter Barron	Charter Aircraft
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**STAFF AND CONSULTANTS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Bill Boehm	General Manager
Sophie Pitchford	Executive Officer (Minute Taker)

**CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Moved: Cr M Cobham      Seconded: S. Wood

That the minutes from the meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016 are a true record.

CARRIED

**CORRESPONDENCE IN**

Nil

**CORRESPONDENCE OUT**

2017.01.19 Committee Members advising of exemption from Pecuniary Interest

2017.02.10 Committee Members – notice of meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017

**AGENDA**

**Item 1:      Public Submissions**

No submissions were received.

**Item 2:      Update on short runway reseal**

The Acting Airport Manager provided an update on the resealing work undertaken on the short runway.

The reseal has been completed with a final sweep to take place. A number of issues were identified with a couple of patches. These patches will be fixed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February under the supervision of Simon Oakely from Aurecon.

The line marking has been completed, however may need to be redone due to extensive loose material still being present at the time of marking

Noel Bowland raised his concerns regarding the drainage that is no longer operational as a result of the process undertaken to install the lighting some years ago. Ben will liaise with Noel to look at the issue this week when Simon is here and map out any prior work that has been carried out.

**Item 3: Update on long runway & maintenance**

The Acting Airport Manager provided an update on the maintenance work being undertaken on the long runway.

Simon Oakely will be carrying out a quarterly inspection this week with the report to be sent to CASA.

Hiway Stabilizers will commence the stabilization of 5000 square metres during the week beginning 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Sharp Airlines have been extremely cooperative with the approach Council is taking in dealing with the ongoing maintenance of the long runway and during the resealing of the short runway..

The chair asked if Noel Bowland would pass on the committee's thanks and appreciation to the Sharp Airlines management team.

**Item 4: Preliminary Business Case – Runway Upgrade**

The General Manger gave a précis of latest verbal update he had received.

TasPorts has apparently recently carried out their own due diligence of the airport report that was provided by Council and concurs with its findings i.e. that a new runway on the proposed new alignment would be appropriate. TasPorts has indicated they would consider the option to take over the airport, however would only do so if there was a community service obligation (CSO) from the State Government. If a CSO were available then it could potentially be open for Council to also see such an undertaking.

The State Government has recently been preoccupied with King Island shipping, so there has been no further progress to date but a realisation that the Federal Government needs to be lobbied. Council will need to continue lobbying the Government to address a new runway. Meanwhile recent resealing works and recent and programmed stabilisation will assist over the next 2 years whilst a decision is made.

**Item 5: Airport Emergency Exercise**

The Emergency Exercise was deemed a great success and it uncovered a number of issues.

All those involved in the exercise provided the feedback required to improve on those issues identified.

**Item 6: Airport Hangers Project**

The Hanger report is to be tabled at the Council meeting with the intention of moving forward the recommendations outlined in the report.

**Item 7: Aviation Fuel Storage Facility Project**

The inspection of the fuel storage tanks is to take place mid-March.

Linda Nicol suggested that if required, she would be happy to carry out a pre-inspection before the final inspection is carried out.

**Item 8: Solar Array at the Airport update**

Council is currently engaging Contractors to repair the solar panels. The panels will now be permanently fixed due to the ongoing problems experienced when they were set to track.

**Item 9: Wifi at Airport – State Government initiative update**

Flinders Island was the only area that missed out on the free Wi-Fi program offered by the Department of State Growth in conjunction with Telstra.

A number of options were discussed by the committee with the view that the Department of State Government be approached to assist with funding.

Recommendation:

The Mayor to write to the State Government to assist with an alternative solution to obtaining free Wifi.

**Item 9: Private Passengers on Tarmac**

There is still an ongoing issue with private passengers on the Tarmac. The resetting of the security codes has reduced the number of incidents however it is still an ongoing concern.

The surveyor marked out the lines needed to assist passengers leaving the tarmac in December and Council are now waiting on the paint to mark the lines.

**Item 10: Passenger Numbers (Information)**

There has been an ongoing growth in passenger numbers over the last few years apart from 2014-15, which was possibly a result of the timing of key infrastructure projects on the Island.

It would be useful to identify why passengers are flying to the Island to allow for observations of the trends. It was also suggested that maybe Sharp Airlines could allow for a tick box on the website to allow for passengers to mark the reason for their travels when placing a booking.

**Item 11: Other Business**

Nil.

**Next Meeting: To be confirmed.**

**Meeting Closed: 12.10**