

Minutes of the Consultative Committee Meeting held at
Leeds Bradford Airport
Wednesday 25 June 2025

Members Present:

Alan Wrigley	Chairman
Cllr Paul Bone	Pool Parish Council
Heather Ruane	Leeds Bradford Airport Support Group
Cllr Penny Robinson	Otley Town Council
Alan Moore	Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum
Cllr John Howard	Bramhope & Carlton Parish Council
Marilyn Banister	Menston Parish Council
Cllr Richard Knowles	Baildon Town Council
Keith Batty	Vale of York Gliding Clubs
Cllr Andrew Paraskos	North Yorkshire Council
Martin Hughes	Local Resident Rep (Horsforth end of runway)
Cllr Eleanor Thomson	Leeds City Council (Lab)

Members Apologies:

Cllr Barry Anderson	Leeds City Council (Con)
Cllr Colin Campbell	Local Resident Rep (Yeadon end of runway) – sub S Lay
Cllr Bob Felstead	Burley & Wharfedale Parish Council – sub S Goodwill

Non Attendance:

Neil Whitaker	Unite the Union
Paul Moss	Sherburn Aero Club
Cllr Jools Heselwood	Leeds City Council
Cllr Michael Woods	Yorkshire Local Councils Association
Cllr Angela Carr	Rawdon Parish Council – Sub: Cllr Peter Gable
Brian Dunsby	Harrogate District Chamber of Commerce
Cllr Raymond Jones	Horsforth Town Council

Airport Officers Present:

Joselyn Rankin	Head of Corporate Affairs & Sustainability
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Minutes taken by Rachel Hawkes (Business Support Manager & Senior Executive Assistant)

1. Welcome & Apologies

The Chairman opened the meeting.

Apologies had been received ahead of the meeting from:

Cllr B Anderson
Cllr Colin Campbell – deputy for today Cllr Sandy Lay
Cllr Bob Felstead – deputy for today Steve Goodwill
Cllr Stella Walsh

Vincent Hodder and Charles Johnson had both been called to an offsite meeting so were also unable to attend the meeting.

2. Organisational Announcements /New Members

LBA is pleased to inform the Airport Consultative Committee of the recent appointment of Declan Maguire as Aviation Director. Declan brings valuable experience to the role, having previously worked in aviation development at Liverpool and Doncaster Airports, as well as in consultancy positions with York Aviation and RDC Aviation.

In addition, there are some changes to the composition of the ACC:

Cllr Pete Gables replaces Angela Carr for Rawdon Parish Council
Cllr Pillai replaces Cllr Leigh for Calderdale Council
Cllr Stella Walsh replaces Cllr Mike Wood for the Yorkshire Local Councils Association

3. UK Airspace Design Services (UKADS)

Jamie Babbin attended the meeting to provide a briefing on the UK airspace change process. He reported that a recent stakeholder engagement exercise had been completed. As anticipated, the level of response was minimal, with only two submissions received. Nonetheless, these responses will be taken into account, and the associated documentation will be updated accordingly.

The updated proposal is scheduled to be submitted by the end of August, targeting a September gateway decision. This will be the fourth attempt to progress through the gateway, and there is cautious optimism that it will be successful this time. Ideally, the submission will pass unconditionally, though there is an acceptance that it may be approved with certain conditions.

The initiative was established following challenges experienced by several airports in navigating the gateway process. LBA's involvement also stems from the view that the primary beneficiaries of the changes are aircraft operators and not regional airports like Leeds Bradford. In addition, areas such as the London Terminal Manoeuvring Area (LTMA), which would otherwise find such changes unmanageable.

The UK Airspace Design Service (UKADS) programme is structured in two phases:

- **UKADS 1**, focusing on the LTMA, in addition to other more time-critical projects ,
- **UKADS 2**, focusing on airspace change more generally, which will be funded via route charges levied against operators.

Funding for UKADS 1 projects will be picked up from Stage 3, highlighting the critical importance of successfully completing Stage 2. The overarching aim of UKADS is to streamline the management of airspace change by involving a dedicated and knowledgeable organisation. It is anticipated that this approach may eventually reduce the need for external consultancy, as UKADS absorbs this expertise in-house.

Q. Now that DSA airspace has been removed, how does this effect your planning?

A. Apparently, DSA will be reopening March 2026. From airspace perspective, the minister didn't call in the ACP for the removal of the previous DSA airspace, therefore it has been removed and they have to start with a clean sheet in accordance with the CAP1616 process. They will likely need to be connected to the pre-existing network as the cluster is already established.

Q. I have noticed the area around the airport isn't going to change?

A. There are procedures call Required Navigation Performance - Approval Required (RNP-AR), that allows the aircraft to fly more creative routes automatically. The problem here at LBA is that some operators would need to train for it, based on their fleet, which takes time. We intend to work actively with our operators in order to facilitate these procedures, but they are not a quick fix.

4. Community Consultation Events Update

We held two further community engagement events in Burley in Wharfedale and Horsforth during June. The Burley in Wharfedale event saw an attendance of approximately 30–35 people, while Horsforth reached its capacity with 45 attendees, after having initially sold out at 70. It appears that the good weather may have impacted attendance at both events.

These followed our earlier events in March, which focused on LBA:Regen, Net Zero, and included a larger section on noise – tailored to the specific concerns of those communities.

Each session generated valuable discussion and provided a good opportunity for residents to voice their views. Time remains a challenge, as we consistently run out. Notably, we had a number of attendees at the recent events who expressed support for the airport. A key takeaway from the latest sessions was the potential benefit of inviting an airline partner to future events, particularly to address Scope 3 emissions (from aircraft), and to ensure our statistics and data are up to date.

We have scheduled an event in Otley for August and are currently confirming the venue. Once finalised, details will be shared with the ACC for promotion.

GALBA representatives were present at both recent events. While we have not formally invited them, we have also not prevented their attendance or participation.

Looking ahead, we are aiming to hold additional events in October and November for the remaining communities. These will follow the same format, though we will review the content beforehand to ensure its ongoing relevance.

Q. Can we include Baildon on the list of communities?

A. we will review and see if this is something we can do next year.

5. LBA:Regen Update

The terminal extension opened operationally on Tuesday 17 June, following a final decision made at 5pm on Monday evening. The response has been overwhelmingly positive.

In advance of the opening, we invited media in on Monday to preview the space while it was still clean and empty, with no passengers present. This generated some favourable coverage, including a feature by BBC Look North on Tuesday evening.

This is a soft launch phase, and we are learning how the new space integrates with the existing terminal infrastructure. It's been a steep learning curve, particularly regarding cleaning schedules, deliveries, and other operational aspects we may have previously taken for granted. We are actively listening to feedback and using it to guide ongoing improvements.

We are working to update signage and improve wayfinding throughout the terminal. Phase 2 of the refurbishment is due to begin next week and will mostly be concealed behind hoarding during the work. Feedback so far has been very encouraging, though not without some minor issues. There have been comments about the lack of an airside smoking shelter, as well as concerns over insufficient or unsuitable seating. Signage and wayfinding continue to be a key area of focus for improvement.

Many customers have expressed satisfaction with the ability to walk directly to the aircraft without the need for bussing, and the future benefit of achieving a fully step-free journey for passengers with reduced mobility (PRM) has also been well received.

Photographs of the new space were shared with the committee.

Q. how do you test out your new passenger routes for those with mobility issues?

A. we work with a specialist company and speak with our staff within the Special Assistance Team.

Q: Is there a possibility of arranging a tour for members of the ACC?

A: Yes, once the peak season has passed.

6. Any other business

Q. Is there an update on the rail link?

A. Discussions are still ongoing with all the relevant parties.

The chair closed the meeting.

Next meeting date

23 September 2025 @ LBA Media Suite 14.00-16.00