

Community Aviation Consultation Group (CACG) Meeting Minutes

Date	Wednesday 20 November 2024
Objective	Community Consultation
Facilitator	Rex Mooney
Minute Taker	Ilma Thorne
Attendees	Rex Mooney, Tony Schulz, Ilma Thorne, Rebecca Byrnes, Joseph Dhollande, Sam Reynolds, Andrew Bridges, Niki Ross, Bill Low, Eli Melki. On Teams – Hannah Johnson, Nicole Walsh, Stephan Smerdon, Alex Dallwitz AI - Tony Byrnes
Apologies	Colin Dawson

Торіс	Details
Welcome Rex Mooney	Rex introduced and welcomed all to the meetingSeveral New members today
Previous Minutes Rex Mooney	Previous minutes were accepted
Member Feedback Rex Mooney	Rex asked about the hold ups with baggage collection. Tony explained that it was a seasonal thing when there are multiple aircraft on ground at the same time and ground crew can be stretched for staff. It does still happen at times
Bill Low	• Explained a lot about the history of Buffel Grass and the importance of fire breaks. It burns a lot hotter than native grasses and the cattle are helping to keep it low
Niki Ross	Inquired about the potential to install Qantas self-service check- in kiosks at the airport. Tony advised that due to upkeep and maintenance it is not justifiable in Alice Springs. If passenger number were to increases significantly it would be looked at
	Had difficulties with the long-term parking exit system today. Exit help button was crackling and hard to hear
Eli Melky	Inquired about potential areas of collaboration between the airport and the Alice Springs Town Council. He raised several points for consideration:
	 Clarifying responsibility for maintaining the fence along Colonel Rose Drive
	 Exploring options for a more significant welcome sign for arriving tourists
	 Discussing the possibility of the Council utilising airport advertising billboards
	 Sharing best practices for engaging with Indigenous community members, particularly regarding approaches to address social issues
	- Offered assistance by collaborating and being able to get

Topic	Details
Member Feedback (cont) Eli Melky	 messages to over 10000 rate payers Addressing concerns about the high cost of airfares impacting the community Expressed the Council's willingness to support the airport and advocate on relevant issues
Nicole Walsh	 Raised concerns about the impact of airfare costs on the business community and liveability Commended the airport for improvements in baggage handling efficiency Expressed the Chamber of Commerce's willingness to collaborate
Sam Reynolds Bill	 with the airport and its stakeholders Inquired about the Council's involvement in decisions related to Fire bombers operations as ATC don't get much notification Raised concerns about noise generated by military aircraft, noting that they seem to be exempt from noise minimisation
Stefan Smerdon	requirements • Provided context about the role of the Aircraft Noise Ombudsman, explaining that they review noise-related complaints and make recommendations for improvement. He clarified that complaints about military aircraft noise should be directed to the Department of Defence first
Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development & Communication	No one present to report
Airservices Australia Hannah Johnson Sam Reynolds	 No enquiries or complaints received about aircraft movements at Alice Springs Airport The current ladder at the control tower has been deemed unsafe. New egress stairs are to be installed soon. Project currently delayed awaiting contractors getting ASICs
ASP Airport Managers Report Tony Schulz	 Passenger numbers are increasing slowly. Slightly more than previous year APAS currently have 13 aircraft undergoing maintenance and 7 aircraft are scheduled to be scrapped. They estimate there could be up to 40 aircraft by end of financial year. Engineer side of the business is growing Air New Zealand crew conducted a handover of their assets to the local indigenous community, including a ceremonial event Close monitoring of our local and national security threats, with regular communication with local police to access the level of threat at the airport. New technologies are being looked at to be implemented Pedestrian crossings at the front of the terminal are now complete The old News Travels store in the terminal is now ready and waiting for a new tenancy ASP Airport sponsored the Master Games in October

Торіс	Details
ASP Airport Managers Report (cont) Tony Schulz Joseph Dhollande	 The airport technical inspection for 2024 has been completed CASA are to visit ASP and Tennant Creek in May for auditing The Runway that was last overlayed in 2019 had warranty inspections completed. It is in good condition The cross strip and some Taxiways have undergone extensive crack sealing No recent updates from World View regarding their balloon launching activities. The Japanese Space Agency are looking to launch from landside in 2026 The airport recently held the emergency field exercise simulating an aircraft crash. The exercise was facilitated by an external party and had participation by Australian Airports Association Emergency Working Group and the Airservices Resilient Forum The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) attended the exercise and held a mock interview, providing valuable training for airport personnel on interacting with investigators following an aircraft crash The airport supports Pine Gap by facilitating weekly supply flights. A function was recently hosted by Pine Gap, where the airport's contribution to the facility was recognised The smoke spill project is complete with 1 small issue to fix We are installing a wash bay for the ground staff vehicles, including the heavy vehicles that will have water separators, and a paint wash out bay A surface treatment on the apron is planned for next year to extend its lifespan past 2030 Electrical upgrades on all aging equipment and substations Buffel grass management initiatives are ongoing All drains are being maintained in preparation for rains Birds Australia have conducted bird life assessments at the airport for over 30 years. The local lady has received an award from Birds Australia for her long-term contributions to bird monitoring. Joe has requested a copy of this data. With the current mowing regime, the data collected will help definitively prove the effectiveness of the targeted mowing strateg
	Department of Infrastructure and advocate for the upgrade. He also mentioned the potential relocation of the Alice Springs sign closer to town as part of the project. Also a potential for more billboards to be erected on northern side of Stuart Highway. • Proposal to extend the footpath/cycle path to the airport. Have
Meeting Dates	 had no recent update on this 26th March 2025 / 19th November 2025