

Meeting Minutes #5



Glenorchy Airstrip Consultative Governance Committee Minutes of Meeting	
Where:	QLDC Shotover Street Offices, Queenstown
Time:	1:30pm
Date:	Tuesday 23 June 2020
Who:	Dan Kirkman (QAC), Peter Campbell (Wyuna/BB), Jeannie Galavazi (QLDC), Nick Nicholson (Operators), Robert Bakhuis (GCA), Councillor Niki Gladding (QLDC)
Apologies:	

Meeting opened at 1:40pm

New Committee member: Councillor Niki Gladding was elected in 2019 and as a Glenorchy resident is now the QLDC Councillor representative.

ITEM 1: Actions from last meeting/Review of previous minutes

No actions from previous meeting

**Review of Terms of Reference (ToR): Due to the new members, including a new Councillor, and the departure of previous Chair, the ToR were read out. It was agreed that a review of the ToR is required and a summary report of meetings to date should be written.

Action: JG to circulate a reviewed ToR and summary report.

ITEM 2: COVID-19 Update

Last meeting was planned for March 2020, this was postponed due to COVID. QLDC offices shut from 23 March to May 25 2020. All staff working from home, now partially back in the office. Glenorchy Airstrip recorded very little activity during Levels 3 and 4 of Lockdown. Activity still very low.

ITEM 3: District Plan Designation Appeal Update.

Appeal by Wyuna Preserve Residents Association on the PDP Glenorchy Airstrip Designation conditions still underway. Relief sought is here:

<https://www.qldc.govt.nz/media/a0ibjyyn/wyuna-preserve-residents-association-noa-env-2018-chc-143-20-6-18.pdf> .

Discussions had been ongoing between QLDC, s274 parties (Skydive New Zealand and HeliGY as 274 party to QLDC and Blanket Bay as a 274 party to Wyuna). These discussions are legally privileged/confidential. A draft timetable for the Environment Court Hearing and Evidence Timetable has been submitted to Courts by QLDC, this is **Attachment 1**. Once QLDC submits evidence this will be publically available.

RB (GCA) advised that the GY residents are in the dark with respect to what is going on with Airstrip Appeal and wanted to know what was going on.

PC noted that the proposed restrictions on the number of flights that can be operated from the airstrip are confusing. They are being set by measuring decibel readings to mapped flight contours by technical experts undertaking text top studies. The 30+ residents of Wyuna and Blanket Bay struggle to understand this measurement system and have suggested that a daily and weekly cap is a more appropriate measurement tool to be used for this remote airstrip. There was acknowledgment agreement by some of the attendees at the meeting to this suggestion as this would

make it a lot clearer for those effected. (Note a daily and weekly cap is not necessarily supported by the operators or QLDC – this is subject to the designation appeal.)

ITEM 4: Reserve Management Plan Review Update

JG- Now that designation appeal timetable has been pushed out, this allows QLDC time and resources to progress the review of the RMP. Notice of intent to review the RMP was published in 2019.

NG – situation has changed significantly since COVID. **NN** agree – his operations (and all operators) have reduced significantly.

NG – can Climate Action Plan reference group be involved? **JG** – assume so, will contact QLDC contact. Role of GACGC in the review of the RMP discussed. **JG** will do a basic update of the RMP (as much of 2016 RMP is about establishment which has been completed and therefore is past tense) and send around for feedback. As RMP is a public process and group represents different interests it was agreed that consensus on the review was unlikely so feedback could be given individually for consideration. **NG** – should RMP review be put on hold until designation appeal resolved? **JG** – decision on this could be another year away, then there is the potential for this to be appealed to High Court. Operative conditions which are very permissive could be in place for some time. Better to have an up to date, relevant RMP.

Action: JG to talk to QLDC legal about the role of The Committee and adoption of the RMP.

Action: JG to do a basic update of RMP and email out to Committee for feedback.

ITEM 5: Licences and RC Update

JG - Itinerant operators still being processed. On hold following COVID. AIMMs monitoring data continues to be very valuable in showing who is using the airstrip.

NG – can caps on flight numbers be put on licences? **JG** theoretically yes, this is what review of RMP will address. RMP still primary document for managing commercial operators. Operative Designation still has no conditions – QLDC is seeking to progressively implement a more restrictive management regime but still prefers that RMP is key document to manage commercial operators. RMP is agile, Designation Conditions typically are not.

ITEM 6: Airstrip Operations update

Fences and roading complete. **RB** – should AIP be updated to include flight paths? **JG/DK** – AIP can be updated but to include reference to QLDC requirements to operate.

Discussion on 'Aerodrome' vs Airstrip. **DK** stated Aerodrome is a CAA term and Glenorchy Aerodrome is consistent with how all airstrips are referenced nationally.

JG – Description of airstrip and reserve varies with different documents and legislation:

District Plan - Designation: 'Aerodrome' Purposes (this is subject to the appeal)

Reserves Act Classification: Local (Airport) Purpose Reserve

CAA: Non certificated Airstrip.

AIP: Glenorchy Aerodrome

RMP: Glenorchy Airstrip Reserve

NN noted that most aircraft will be fitted with the specific equipment by mid 2021 allowing them to be tracked on Flight Aps.

ITEM 7: Complaints

Three complaints have been received since June 2019, all from the same complainant.

August 2019 – NZONE, followed up and satisfactory response provided

Oct 2019 – Black Helicopter, followed up, not a GY operator

Feb 2020 – NZONE, followed up and satisfactory response provided.

ITEM 8: General Business

RB – requests that every third meeting in future is held in Glenorchy.

DK – last meeting, is leaving QAC. Mike Clay to return as representative.

JG to organise next meeting in Glenorchy.

Next Meeting - tbc

This meeting closed at 2.50pm.