

Camden Airport Community Aviation Consultation Group Meeting
Minutes – 4 November 2024

1. Attendees & Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 11am and gave an Acknowledgement of Country to the traditional owners of the land on which Camden Airport is located, the Dharawal people, and paid tribute to their ongoing connection to land, sea and sky.

Present	Company/Organisation
Brenton Burman	Chair
Tom Smith	Aeria Management Group (AMG) CEO
Amanda Majarres	AMG COO
Justin Marr	AMG General Manager Aviation
Peter Munro	AMG Senior Communications & Stakeholder Engagement Manager
Councillor Eliza Rahman	Camden Council
Bradley Colling	Camden Council
Clare Aslanis	Camden Council
Timothy Gill	Airservices Australia
Jim Norrie	United Aero Helicopters
John Anderson	Air Combat Australia
Lachlan Hyde	Royal Aero Club of NSW
Heather Lyke	Curtis Aviation
Mark Perich	Leppington Pastoral
Rachael Atkinson	Resident
Robert Eaglesham	Resident
Richard Leemen	Camden Residents Action Group
Jill Leemen	Camden Residents Action Group
Maeve Platt	Camden Residents Action Group

Apologies

Sally Quinnell MP	MP for Camden
Councillor Vince Ferreri	Camden Council

Tony Rotondo	Desser Australia
George Raby	GB Aviation
Ben Meldrum	Scouts NSW
Andrew Andersen	Former Chair General Aviation Advisory Network
Fazila Farhad	South West Sydney Tourism Taskforce
Steve Grabowski	Bounty Business Group Referral Network
Roland Blackstone	Marsdens
Glenda Davis	Camden Residents Action Group
Annette Dittmar	Airservices Australia
Dave Boulter	Southern Cross Gliding Club

2. AMG update

AMG representatives detailed Camden Airport news, information and updates, including:

- Recent appointments of AMG CEO Tom Smith and AMG COO Amanda Majarres
- AMG’s participation in Aviation Safety Week, RUOK? Day and an Aviation Careers Forum for Women
- AMG congratulated the Royal Aero Club of NSW for its success at the recent Australian Aviation Awards, specifically Lachlan Hyde (winner of the Rising Star – Small Business Award) and Alexander Pang (finalist for the Recreational Pilot of the Year Award)
- Aircraft movements at Camden Airport
- Successful completion of upgrades to the airport car park and stormwater infrastructure, to improve safety, accessibility and resilience to flooding and major weather events
- Commencement in November 2024 of the second stage of a major fencing upgrade at the airport, to improve security, operations and wildlife barriers
- Commencement in Q1 2025 of the relocation of the airport fuel site and related construction of a new airport hangar and new taxiway approach. This is believed to be the first new aircraft hangar at Camden Airport for more than 20 years
- Recent power outages and incidents, including supply authority issues
- Release of the Commonwealth Government’s Aviation White Paper in August 2024, which affirmed the Government’s commitment to a “strong and diverse general aviation sector” and the essential role of general aviation as an “ideal testing ground” for emerging aircraft
- AMG’s submission in support of CASA’s proposed Bankstown Airport Southeast VFR Corridor
- Department of Infrastructure & Transport’s proposed new night-time procedures for Western Sydney International Airport.

AMG’s presentation will be published on the AMG website Community section.

AMG received the following questions from meeting attendees:

- Q: What are the chances of further power outages at Camden Airport, specifically the loss of phase power?
- AMG response: While we cannot guarantee there will be no further power outages, we are upgrading all cabling at the airport to minimise the risk of future incidents.

- Q: What is the likelihood of a future mixed-use development at the airport?
- AMG response: The likelihood of a mixed-use development at Camden Airport is low. There is currently no demand for a retail development there. Regardless, any such proposals would be subject to community consultation and would consider important factors, such as traffic impacts and wind shear impacts.
- Q: Where in the Camden Airport Master Plan does it indicate plans for non-aviation developments or non-aviation zones?
- AMG response: AMG committed to provide CACG members with a copy of the current Camden Airport Master Plan and identify relevant sections.

3. Airservices Australia update

Timothy Gill of Airservices Australia presented information on Camden Airport air traffic movements and aircraft noise complaints, including:

- Total of five individual noise complainants across March-September 2024, all of which related to fixed wing circuit training
- Number of noise complaints per month remains well below the three-year average

Airservices Australia's presentation will be published on the AMG website Community section.

4. Updates from Camden Council and elected NSW and Federal representatives

- Camden Council representative Clare Aslanis advised that she had replaced former Camden Airport CACG member Heath James in the role of Team Leader – Heritage Precincts and Rural.
- Ms Aslanis also noted that Council will update its rural strategy in 2025.

The following matter was raised by meeting attendees:

- Q: Does lighting used at new sports fields in Camden have any impact on airport operations?
- AMG response: Any such proposed development is submitted to the airport for consideration, including factors such as the proposed development height and lighting impacts.

Council representatives were asked by a community/resident representative to provide an update at the next Camden Airport CACG meeting on its inquiry and research into local flooding events.

5. Other updates and general business

- Camden Councillor Eliza Rahman raised concerns from a constituent about rental charges at Camden Airport and the level of service provided by flight training operators at the airport.
- AMG CEO Tom Smith noted that airport charges supported the ongoing operations of the airport. He also highlighted AMG's support for community-based aviation organisations, including the provision of discounts on rents or landing charges.
- AMG committed to further discussions with Councillor Rahman regarding this matter.
- Resident Rachael Atkinson asked whether any decision had been made regarding the renaming of Aerodrome Road at the airport and related changes to street addresses for residents living next to the airport.

- AMG CEO Tom Smith said that no decision had been made.
- Resident Rachael Atkinson suggested the opening of an aviation museum at the airport, to promote its heritage and history. She noted the prospect of donations for such a museum, including a Tiger Moth aircraft, radio equipment, airport archives and aviation books. An aviation museum would give back to the local community and attract people to visit the airport, she said.
- Councillor Eliza Rahman expressed her support for the proposal as a potential tourism attraction.
- AMG CEO Tom Smith said AMG was open minded about the prospect of an aviation museum at the airport but that the success of any such proposal was dependent on robust community support and resources to run and drive the museum. He invited community members to submit a proposal to AMG, detailing plans for the development, content and ongoing viable operations of a museum.
- Chair Brenton Burman suggested community members/residents speak with Camden Council regarding the proposed museum and any opportunities for government funding to support its development and operations.
- Mark Perich of Leppington Pastoral thanked AMG for the provision of an Airfield Wind Advisory System at Camden Airport, which he said would improve safety for operators. He also asked about the potential installation of pilot-activated lighting at the airport.
- AMG General Manager Aviation Justin Marr said AMG is investigating installing updated pilot-activated lighting at Camden Airport. AMG is receiving quotes and, if the cost falls within the company's budget, AMG will look vto install the lighting in 2024, he said.
- Lachlan Hyde of the Royal Aero Club of NSW invited members to attend an upcoming community day and barbecue to be hosted by the club, which would include an awards presentation.
- AMG CEO Tom Smith thanked Mr Hyde for the invitation and noted the exciting summer ahead for Camden Airport, including the hosting of three community aviation camps for school children and young people.
- Resident Robert Eaglesham asked about the preferred direction for aircraft circuit training out of Camden Airport.
- AMG General Manager Aviation Justin Marr said that the direction was decided by Airservices Australia and was predominantly determined by wind direction.

6. Meeting Close and Lunch

7. Next Meeting

Next meeting of the Camden Airport CACG to be held in or around March 2025. Members will be advised of the specific date early in 2025.

ACTION ITEMS

Item	Meeting arising	Action	Responsibility	Status
Airport fuel	November 2024	AMG to provide further information regarding the aviation fuel provider at Camden Airport	AMG	
Flight training	November 2024	AMG to discuss with Camden Councillor Eliza Rahman concerns she raised regarding flight training at Camden Council	AMG / Councillor Eliza Rahman	
Master Plan	November 2024	AMG to provide CACG members with a copy of the Camden Airport Master Plan and identify sections relating to airport zones	AMG	Provided to members with the draft Minutes for the November 2024 meeting.
Flooding	November 2024	Camden Council to consider providing an update on its inquiry and research into local flooding events	Camden Council	