

WESTMINSTER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL WORKING GROUP

Notes of meeting held on Tuesday 24th January 2017 at 5:30pm in the Town Hall

Present:

Councillors Anthony Austin [Chair], Phil Proctor and Lester Taylor			Shaftesbury Town Council [STC]
Cllr Piers Brown	Shaftesbury Town Council & North Dorset District Council	: Cllr Gary Jefferson Cllr Simon Pritchard	North Dorset District Council [NDDC]
Sara Jacson	Cedars Castle Hill	: Ray Humphries	Shaftesbury Resident
Maureen Vickery Jackie Hiscock	BUPA, The Mellows, Gillingham	: David Webber	Melbury Abbas & Cann PC
Lester Dibben Melanie Froggatt	Shaftesbury & District Task Force	: Richard Thomas	Shaftesbury Resident
Julian Prichard	Save our Beds	: Sue Daddy	Retired GP
Andrew Weir	Retired GP	: Lynne Fish	Donheads & Transport Forum
Cllr Barrie von Clemens Julie Hawkins	Gillingham Town Council [GTC]	: Neil Southerden	E Knoyle PC
Simon Firbank	Bourton PC	: Steve Unwin	Shaftesbury Resident
Barbara Carter	Shaftesbury Town Council	:	

1. Apologies

Councillor George Hal; STC, Ros Gough Hindon PC, Carolyn Cox Friends of Westminster Hospital

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2017 were approved.

3. Report by Cllr Austin on various meetings attended and future meetings proposed

Cllr Austin [AA] reported that the notes of the meeting held on Friday 20th January 2017 with Simon Hoare at Gillingham TC were still to be received and circulated. Cllr Barrie von Clemens [BvC] said that the meeting was constructive with more information to collate on the transfer of responsibilities. GTC had deferred power to the Mayor and the Clerk in respect of the Westminster Memorial Hospital consultation. Simon Hoare [SP] presented valid bullet points which would be circulated by Sylvia Dobie, Clerk GTC.

A draft letter from Simon Hoare would be circulated to Town and Parish Councils. There will be full instructions on how best this would be signed by Town and Parish Councils.

AA reported on the meeting he had last Wednesday, 18th January 2016, with the CXO of the CCG, Tim Goodson, which was also attended by Sally Shead, **Director of Quality**, who was tasked with the health side, and Social Services to ensure medical requirements are met, and Social Services. They provided a productive definition on beds – if discharged from a health bed with a transfer to a Health Unit this was still part of the NHS and these costs were covered. If discharged to a Care Home costs were not met. It was important to look at discharging which was key to long term beds elsewhere. The need to retain Clinical and Medical beds should be included in responses to the questionnaire.

AA advised that he was meeting with the WMH Matron and her senior on Thursday 26th January.

This was an opportunity to discuss what space is available. Using sub-acute beds in the Westminster Hospital will unblock beds in the main Hospitals.

The comment was made that this was going back to how it used to be, with OT and Physio on the same site. Gillingham and Shaftesbury are on the edge and get left out as Dorchester, Bournemouth and Poole were considered the priority.

Keeping beds at WMH will save travelling elsewhere, particularly for the elderly with public transport so limited and will save beds at the major hospitals.

4. Reports and feedback from stakeholders

It was reported that Wiltshire were being treated differently with only referrals to WMH. The SW Area Board were trying to get this altered and it was requested that Tony Deane, SW Area Board, be included in the circulation list.

The history of the WMH had been circulated. LD and RH were looking into proof of ownership, as the NHS had not provided any. Some conveyancing documents were not available from the Land Registry. It was suggested that the Dorset History Centre may have documents relating to the ownership of the Hospital. BC would provide an email address for the Westminster Estate Archivist.

This was mentioned at the meeting with SH, and he is of the opinion that it is the property of the NHS.

A third of the population within a 10 mile radius of the hospital was in Wiltshire and 2/3 of the acute beds had been referrals from Salisbury.

If beds are removed from Shaftesbury, what effect will this have on Salisbury, Yeovil and Sherborne hospitals? How will people get there on public transport?

RH confirmed that all the Hospitals had been written to.

Sara Jacson [SJ] confirmed that palliative care patients were already being sent to the Cedars. The Mellowses also confirmed this.

The Weldmar have a link with the Cedars for palliative and end of life care.

Healthwatch Dorset is taking a keen interest in the consultation and their comment have been published on their website. It was suggested that members of the Working Group take a look.

<http://www.healthwatchdorset.co.uk/>

It was reported that Social Services were carrying out their own consultation on Helping to shape adult social care and support services in Dorset. A copy of their letter asking for people to join their panel of 'experts by experience' is attached to these meeting notes.

5. Promotion of the campaign and publicity

Julian Prichard [JP] reported that he now had marketing materials for street representatives. 20 streets were covered so far in Shaftesbury, but help was needed to cover Gillingham.

Maureen Vickery [MV] offered the use of The Mellows in Gillingham and would talk to JP about how this would work.

Funding was in the process of being sought, and STC were considering their contribution at the Full Council meeting which followed this meeting. JP had already received some funding from local businesses.

SoB have set up a website and JP asked for anyone to write a contribution for publication. There would be links to other relevant sites. STC would include a link to the SoB site on their website.

In a short survey of 24 households JP reported that:

46% didn't know about the consultation and the impact on the WMH

29% had heard something

17% had received a copy of the consultation document and questionnaire

8% had returned the questionnaire

Melanie Froggatt[MF] said that other Counties consultations had carried out more public events than the Dorset CCG.

STC Councillors handed out Consultation documents and questionnaires at the Thursday Farmer's Market and had a good response with some completing the questionnaire there and then. This will take place again this Thursday.

CLlr P Brown had prepared a draft leaflet, and would provide a word version to BC for slight amendments before being circulated.

JP asked if there were any volunteers to write articles for the website and to man phone lines as he was unable to manage on his own as the campaign was gathering momentum.

JP said that the model for promoting SoB in Gillingham was ready but that he had nobody to yet who could take this on.

6. Proposed Public Meeting

Shaftesbury School had been booked for Wednesday 15th February 2017 for a public meeting to take place from 7pm to 9pm.

AA had invited Helen Coombes, the Director of Adult and Community Care, Social Services, as well as a member of Healthwatch Dorset, to come and speak at the public meeting on 15th February 2017. It was hoped that Sally Shead **Title** would also be able to attend. It was proposed that there

would be short presentations from 4 or 5 speakers. How to try to integrate, timescales and the position of beds long term. This is not accepting that the beds will go.

7. Any other business

Confirmation was required as to whether all SP7 and SP8 Postcodes would be counted and whether those outside of SP7 and SP8 would also be taken into account. Residents just over the borders were registered with GP's in Dorset but lived in Wiltshire and also Somerset. i.e. Mere, Donheads, Tisbury, E Knoyle, Semley, Cucklington and Buckhorn Weston. How would St Mary's School be counted?

It should be made clear that the question on the front page of the questionnaire should be responded 'Strongly Disagree'. The wording leads to the temptation to 'Agree' and was a leading question. Speaking to people helps to clarify this point.

It was suggested that the Working Group contact the Community Hospitals Association, who had helped save other hospitals from NHS consultation and proposals. BC would include them on the circulation list and send previous notes of meeting to them and ask if they would like to participate. A copy of their leaflet is attached to these notes.

Gillingham TC have 6,500 people on their Facebook page and Mere have a further 2,500. The Mellowes also have Facebook followers. JP to make contact to see how to best use these facilities.

It was commented that mental health has not been included in this Consultation and is being dealt with separately. Why is this?

Obtaining financial information is critical. Costs in Wiltshire and South Somerset are different from Dorset.

How much does it cost at Salisbury compared to locally in a Cottage Hospital, what is the daily rate against the cost of bed blocking.

The Cedars know their costs but cannot compare them with the information provided by the CCG as it is not clear what is and what is not included.

It was suggested that village halls could be used as centres for collecting questionnaires and that Parish Councils could post door to door in their villages.

East Knoyle have the document and questionnaire in their shop and collect in completed questionnaires. They have a list of names which are ticked off when completed forms are returned.

8. To agree agenda items and date for next meeting

The next meeting of the Working Group will take place on Tuesday 31st January 2017, 5:30pm in the Town Hall.

The meeting closed at 6:45pm

Update to the Notes of the Meeting held on 17th January 2017

Re: Petition submitted by Dick Ripper

JP asked the question of Frances Avis:

During our conversation last night, you mentioned that the petition that was submitted by Dick Ripper, outside of the consultation period, would have a different status than it would have had it been submitted during the consultation period.

Please could you explain how a submitted petition will be referenced, both outside of and during the consultation period?

Also, is it possible to retract the petition and resubmit it during the current consultation process?

Francis Avis responded:

As discussed if a petition is received within the consultation period then it and the depth of feeling in that particular area will be referenced in the report for consideration by the Governing Body. However, if it is received outside the consultation period then it won't be referenced in the report but the Governing Body would still give due consideration to the depth of feeling within that area.

With regards to the Shaftesbury hospital petition which was submitted before consultation – we can submit it within the consultation period (for reference as above) if we receive a written request to do so from the petition owner. Are you happy to liaise with Mr Ripper about this?