

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

OLDER PEOPLE'S COUNCIL

10.15am 17 MAY 2016

CONFERENCE ROOM 1, JUBILEE LIBRARY, JUBILEE STREET, BRIGHTON

MINUTES

Present: Mike Bojczuk (Chair) Mike Bojckuk (Chair), John Eyles, Lynne Shields, Penny Morley Francis Tonks, John Eyles and Lynne Shields

Co-opted Members: Nick Goslett, Jack Hazlegrove Nick Goslett and Jack Hazelgrove (Older People's Council)

Others Present:

PART ONE

202 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

Apologies were received from Colin Vincent and Cllr Barford

203 MINUTES

203.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

204 DELIVERING THE NHS FIVE YEAR FORWARD VIEW: SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSFORMATION PLANS (STP)

204.1 Barbara Deacon, the Health & Wellbeing Board Development Manager explained that Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) was a new planning framework for NHS services which was announced in December 2015. It was based on a regional footprint, rather than a single organisation. Locally this would involve East & West Sussex, Brighton & Hove and Surrey. This would run up until March 2021 and closely linked to the 5 year Forward View.

204.2 The aim was to close three gaps:

- Health & wellbeing
- Care & quality
- Finance & efficiency

Significant improvements are expected. Currently there were between 8 to 300 different sources of funding, which would be merged in a process similar to that of Local Economic Partnerships (LEPs). This would include all Acute Hospital Trusts, hospitals

and local authorities. Michael Watson will be leading the local STP. This would mainly involve clinical staff and was a planning framework, rather than a reorganisation.

204.3 Concern was expressed by some attendees about the lack of consultation about this stage of the process and the OPC confirmed that they would seek be inviting a representative of the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to their September public meeting and write to the CCG outlining their concerns e.g. GP sustainability. They would also write to local MPs about these concerns.

204.4 The STP involves 9 must do's for 2016/17 include cancer waiting times and services for people with learning disabilities. It could be seen as a devolution of health. Barbara Deacon had not received a response to an enquiry about how the STP would work with Health & Wellbeing Boards and the CCGs.

204.5 Again members of the public expressed concerns as to whether the 9 must do's were impossible, especially given the scale of the financial gaps. There were worries about the continuous changes facing the NHS and the impact of this uncertainty.

Actions: *Penny Morley to write to CCG outlining their concerns and requesting an urgent meeting.*

205 PUBLIC HEALTH AND OLDER PEOPLE

205.1 Becky Woodiwiss a Public Health Specialist provided an update on the public health programme for older people. This was a vital area as there were predicted to be 51,000 people over 65 in the city by 2030. This was largely due to people living longer and better. The public health objectives were to 1. Improve the wider determinants of health and 2. Health improvement e.g. helping people to make healthy choices; Health Protection and Healthcare. She recommended the section on Ageing Well in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment <http://www.bhconnected.org.uk/content/needs-assessments> . A Quality of Life tool is used to measure the impact in certain locally commissioned older people services success in services Another significant area of work is the Age Friendly City programme which has the involvement of the OPC and is currently working through the WHO checklist which covers areas such as Social Participation. Topic workshops are being held on issues such as alcohol, physical activities, food, and sexual & relationships .The focus of the June workshop will be mental health and wellbeing, although the suicide rate in older people is decreasing.

205.2 Workstreams which focus on older people include: locality profiles of older people are being carried out in 3 areas; looking at issues facing residents e.g. number of cold houses; falls prevention work; oral health and digital inclusion, flu vaccine uptake, winter warmth and involvement in care homes and home care forums. Another focus is increasing the participation of older people in the arts and culture in the city and encouraging people to become involved.

205.3 Becky Woodiwiss concluded her presentation by asking the OPC and older people present how they might support this public health programme? Concerns were raised about the Age Friendly Cities Forum and whether it was still going and the meeting heard that the Forum would start again when a new person had been appointed to work on the project. The importance of public toilets for older people was emphasised and

whether any public health funds could be used to keep open any of the toilets which were due for closure.

205.4 It was suggested that a workshop could be held on the impact of drug intake and their effects in later life. Becky agreed to talk to the substance misuse team about this issue. Off the Fence and the BHT rehabilitation service were also mentioned as organisations involved in this issue. She also agreed that eye care and hearing were also issues for older people which should be noted.

206 OPC WORK PROGRAMME

It was agreed to invite the Care Quality Commission and Age UK to come and speak to the June meeting of the OPC and to invite the Clinical Commissioning Group and ASC to come and speak at the public meeting in September.

207 SECRETARY'S UPDATE

207.1 OPC SECRETARY'S REPORT - MAY 2016

- **Fairness Commission** - OPC submissions and attendance at meeting on older people undertaken. We await the report of the Commission which is due in the summer.
- **Health & Well Being Committee** - Two OPC officers attended the meeting on the 19th April where the Committee discussed Tower House. The HWBB recommended closure to P&R. The CCG issued a statement re Patient Transport & OPC Vice-Chair asked how long before the contract would be stopped due to the chaotic private company operation.
- **Age Friendly City Steering Group** - the next meeting of the Steering Group is on the 9th June and will be discussing mental health and older people. This is an issue that the OPC have raised here & in the context of the Fairness Commission.
- **Falls** - the April OPC meeting raised the issue of falls due to Southern Water. A letter has been sent to the Chief Executive of Southern Water raising our concerns about the impact to older people & costs to the NHS of falls. A Falls prevention group has been established with OPC representation. Falls prevention workshops are being run by BHCC for tutors running sessions with older people.
- **Age Friendly City Forum** - since the Age UK worker who co-ordinated the meetings has left this has not met. However, we have contacted Age UK suggesting a meeting in June. We understand that the post is to be filled for a Dementia worker who will co-ordinate the forum in future and we are liaising for meetings to recommence.
- **OPC Officers Meeting** - held on the 25th April. Agreed to send a letter to all Councillors on the Policy & Resources Committee making representations about the future of Tower House and calling for a deferment of any decision. A reply was received from the Leader of the Council and we will be arranging a meeting with him in forthcoming period.
- **Tower House** - a number of OPC members attended the Policy & Resources meeting held on the 28th April (as did a number of clients of Tower House). Unfortunately a decision was taken to close Tower House with alternative arrangements to be made for service users. P&R agreed to write to the freeholder requesting the retention of the

building for community use. A letter has been sent from the OPC to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care with a range of follow up issues relating to the current service users of Tower House.

Response received and circulated. **Discuss**

- **Adult Social Care** - The April OPC meeting had presentations re Community Meals which will include Safe & Well checks, Luncheon Club information across the City and Home Care. The presentations will be placed on the OPC website.
- **Older People's Day** - this is linked to UN International Day of Older Persons on the 1st October. The Council will be funding an organisation to organise the day/ events etc. The theme is full of life,adventure,memories,relaxation and industry The OPC had a joint event last year & need to decide for this year. **Discuss**
- **Brighton NPC** - AGM held on the 9th May. An acting Secretary with other officers elected. See website <http://www.npcbrighton.org> Next meeting 15th August.

Invitations

- **Know My Neighbour Partnership Meeting** - held on the 20th April at 3.30 at One Church, Gloucester Place - an OPC member to attend. Know My Neighbour week is 21st -27th May with a Pop Up Cafe between 11.00 to 7.00 at One Church. Also a Hop 50+ Quiz on Tuesday 24th May at 2pm at One Church.
- **Physical Activity for Healthy Living** - course on 27th April at Kings House aimed at those engaging with older clients and residents.
- **Plans for Preston Barracks** at Brighton University Moulsecoomb campus. Consultation info see www.momentumlewesroad.com .
- **NPC** - South East Meeting on 26th April on Care.
- **Fabrica** - The Vital Ingredient celebrates perspectives of older people on the 27th April at 6.00 .
- **Stanmer Park Consultation** - fairly late notification of consultation. OPC has input in the past and will monitor this project.
- **LGBTQ** - Advocacy service looking for mental health & young persons advocacy worker - circulated to pass on to anyone interested.
- **Giddy** - Intergenerational Project re Oral history of older people when they were young in Brighton & Hove. Exhibition at Brighton University with an app than can be downloaded. See www.giddybrighton.com
- **Nutritional Therapy** - event on 4th May at Cornerstone Community Centre.
- **Brighton & Hove Compass Meeting** - on Saturday 7th May at Brighthelm
- **Citizens Brighton & Hove Meeting** - an offshoot of Citizens UK seeking to establish locally. Meeting held on May 12th at One Church. OPC will liaise.

Newsletters

- **Healthwatch** - magazine - range of local NHS info including new dementia services starting in April 2016.

- **Sussex Elders Commission Report** - re Sussex Police CC issued with acknowledgement of OPC input. See <https://www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/elderscommission/>
- **Age Action Alliance** - contains links to a range of information including a useful Health & Social Care Bulletin by Age UK London.
- **DWP** - update re Disability Living Allowance ending which affects those born after 8 April 1948.
- **National Pensioners Convention** - Campaign Bulletin covering meeting with Pensions Minister and cuts to Pensioner credit linked to increased death rates.
- **Community Works** - Range of events and information on voluntary sector across the City
- **Lifelines** - have won a lottery grant of £200,000 & will be expanding activities to Woodingdean, Ovingdean & Rottingdean. They will be reviving Healthlink which will assist people who need support to get to medical appointments.

207.2 Penny Morley agreed to find out about the nutritional standards of community meals and concern was expressed about the safe and well checks. She asked people to let the OPC know if they were experiencing any issues with community meals. He was involved the SE Forum on Ageing and had information on the Department for Work & Pensions. She could provide hard copies of a list of lunch clubs in the city for those who were interested.

208 MEMBERS' UPDATE

208.1 The OPC have written letters to the Argus and Independent about Tower House, community meals, toilets, bus passes and sent out a letter to all party leaders about the impact of these cuts on older people. Some success has been achieved in relation to bus passes and less severe closures to public toilets. The key concern which remains is that of Tower House following on from the last OPC meeting which heard from Cllr Yates and Naomi Cox. The OPC wrote to all members of the Policy & Resources Committee and Denise D'Souza outlining their concerns. The OPC will also visit Tower House again to see how the service users and faring, offer support and check if they have independent advocates. Have been in contact with St Vincent and Paul's Society who want to start a day centre service and wanted to explore whether Tower House could be a resource. It is the hope that there could be a way to keep this as a resource for community use. Concern was also expressed by the lack of public consultation on the proposals and whether sufficient alternatives had been identified for the users/carers. Whether this closure would achieve savings when issues such as transport had been taken into account.

208.2 Lynne Shield spoke of the need to make Older People's Day a positive experience but also recognising that older people needed to be 'full of fight' in the forthcoming months. She was working with public health on a falls workshop, which could include the link between alcohol and falls.

208.3 OPC agreed that they would like to receive the emails from the Age Friendly City forum.

208.4 John Eyles had participated in the following:

- Vallance Community Centre relaunch
- Brunswick Older People's project
- Know my neighbour – the One Church meeting

He also gave feedback from a heating get together and the Environment and Transport Committee. He expressed concerns about:

- Road and passenger safety
- Rubbish bins in Brunswick & Adelaide
- Closure of basement collections and the need to put bins out on top and whether those who need assistance can still request it.

208.5 Francis Tonks explained that he was involved in 2 research groups re: health and self funding. He had attended an unveiling of a plaque, a Lifelines meeting and singing for Better Health next week as part of the Brighton Festival.

208.6 Jack Hazlegrove had recently been re-elected as the chair of the Brighton & Hove Pensioners Forum and become a Director of Grey Matters. He recently had joined a group looking at issues relating to the hospital and was a regular attendee of the U3A.

Mike Bojczuk had attended both the recent P&R and HWB Committee meetings and was writing to councillors about Tower House. He was in the process of updating the OPC webpages and encouraged people to contact them using this resource. He was a keen campaigner on digital exclusion and wanted to become a digital champion for Brighton & Hove.

209 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

209.1 The issue of fuel poverty was raised in relation to the benefits of dehumidifiers and thermometers. Mike Bojczuk agreed to email this information to Becky Woodiwiss.

The meeting concluded at Time Not Specified

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of