

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

OLDER PEOPLE'S COUNCIL

10.00am 13 FEBRUARY 2018

HOVE TOWN HALL, ROOM G90 - HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Colin Vincent (Chair), Mike Bojczuk and Penny Morley

Co-opted Members: John Cook and Michael Whitty

PART ONE

374 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

374.1 Apologies were received from John Eyles, Jack Hazelgrove and Francis Tonks.

375 MINUTES

375.1 It was agreed that the minute should be amended at point 372.4 to reflect that Mr Bojczuk had asked a question about wifi at senior housing schemes at Housing & New Homes Committee.

375.2 Agreed – that the minutes be approved as an accurate record (with the amendment detailed above).

376 OPC WORK PROGRAMME

376.1 The Chair told members that he and Mike Bojczuk had held discussions with Possability People about future support for the OPC. Possability People have submitted a quote for support and this was discussed by members, as was the potential to reduce the number of OPC business meetings and potential venues for meetings.

376.2 It was agreed that there should be further negotiation with Possability People with the aim of agreeing support arrangements post-March 2018.

376.3 members were told that there had been no response to the invitation for Cllr Meadows to speak at the March meeting. Members therefore agreed that the following speakers should be invited to the March meeting:

- The BHCC officer responsible for the Carers' Hub;
- A BHCC officer with responsibility for planning/major projects (to provide an update on projects with the most interest to older people (e.g. Valley Gardens) and to provide information on the scheme (the Community Infrastructure Levy) which will replace S106 payments (payments made by developers for community benefit).

377 GREY MATTERS

377.1 John Cook told members that the Grey Matters accounts have been submitted to and accepted by Companies House.

377.2 Grey Matters has doubled its output and has plans to double this again. Having this additional capacity will enable Grey Matters to increase the range of programming.

377.2 The times of Grey Matters programmes remain the same, but they are now being broadcast weekly rather than bi-weekly. All programmes can also be accessed via the Grey Matters website.

378 MEMBERS' UPDATE

378.1 Penny Morley

- **BHCC Budget** - OPC views sent to all Councillors on PR&G Committee on the 16th January. Response received from leaders of the Green & Labour Groups and these have been circulated. The full budget meeting is due on the 22nd February where final decisions will be taken.
- **London Road LAT** - attended meeting where Police Commissioner spoke. There are a range of issues locally with regard to drug dealing, graffiti, police actions and numbers of police available. With regard to most issues the answer seems to be ring in the problems and the more calls received, the more likely it is that the police will act.
- **Preston Barracks Development** - attended a meeting organised by Colin with Brighton University to discuss the development and how older people might be affected by the development. There will be a pedestrian bridge over Lewes Road and a public space with seating. A discussion about a GP surgery on the site is continuing which we supported.
- **Age Friendly City Forum** - attended a meeting at Age UK on 22nd January. A speaker from Library services (Julie O'Neil) attended - there is an open consultation about this at the moment. It was agreed that an email be sent to David Brindley who is now managing the process with a range of questions about the future changes to the process. Lynne Shields drafted agreed email.

- **Isla Robertson** - a commemoration of her life was organised by her family on 25th January at the Purple Playhouse which was a warm and well attended event. Speakers spoke about her campaigning for pensioners and her wide life experience and impact on people's lives.
- **Mens Network** - Volunteering Matters co-ordinated a meeting. Colin asked me to attend due his unavailability. Went along to the meeting held at Brookmeads the new extra care facility for people with early stage dementia. A number of voluntary sector organisations attended included TDC, Hop 50+, Fabrica, Mind, Lifelines, BHCC Manager for Sheltered Housing. Some men only activities are taking place but some are struggling to recruit. They are looking for ways to engage hard to reach men - any ideas?
- **Health & Well Being Meeting** - attended the meeting held on the 30th January. The meeting discussed Adult Social Care providers fees, and charging policy. It also discussed the Annual report of Safeguarding Adults Board which identified 1,011 enquiries with 24% of these covering those aged 85+. The Adult Social Care Local Account was also on the agenda and is now published. Colin wrote a piece from the OPC which appears in the publication which should be available in Libraries.
- **Older People's Meeting** - Brighton Police organised a meeting at John Street station to make contact with a range of organisations dealing with older people's issues on the 8th February. The basis of the meeting was to improve communication and they asked how can your community & stakeholders help Sussex police? They have set up liaison with care homes to have information on people with dementia and Sgt Claire Gardener who deals with missing persons is co-ordinating this work.

378.2 John Cook

- Attended a General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) meeting organised by Community Works. The GDPR data protection requirements will affect all organisations which hold personal data, potentially including the OPC. The OPC may wish to receive a briefing on this issue at a later meeting
- Attended the Primary Care Reference Group
- Has begun an NHS-funded course on health and social care

378.3 Mike Bojczuk

- Volunteered at the homeless shelter
- Attended an Albion in the Community cancer awareness session at the Bus Depot
- Attended the Housing & New Homes Committee meeting (but left when the public gallery was cleared due to a disturbance)
- Attended Policy, Resources & Growth Committee where the committee agreed to pass the council budget plans on to Full Council for decision
- Attended the Age Friendly City meeting
- Attended a Palliative Care Research meeting
- Attended SHAG, where items included a presentation from the Fire Service on fire safety in flats. It also appears that the BHCC scheme to covert scheme guest rooms into flats has been put on hold.

378.4 Michael Whitty

- Has been elected Chair of Warmdene & Carden Hill Patient Participation Group. If the PPG is successful with a grant application, then it will release a newsletter
- Has applied for a further grant from the Police & Crime Commissioner. A grant of £3K was previously received from the PCC and this was used to fund a winter newsletter
- Westdene Barn lunches are now being held on the third Tuesday of each month. The lunches are catered by the Real Junk Food Project
- The Post magazine has published information on the OPC at no charge. There is the potential for similar future articles.
- MW is involved in free tours of the Police Museum at Brighton Town Hall.

378.5 Colin Vincent (Chair)

Lewes Road Barracks Development

With Penny had meeting at the University of Brighton with their Chief Operating Officer and Estates Director to discuss certain aspects of the developments infrastructure affecting older people who reside in the area. We made reference to pedestrian crossings, a proposed health centre, improved access to Moulsecoomb Station through the reconstructed campus and the non-student private housing units on the site. We also mentioned the plight of the Community Voluntary Transport vehicles expelled from the site and currently homeless.

In relation to the station the University representatives indicated that they had a common interest in a joint approach to Network Rail to update the disabled access arrangements to both platforms.

17/1/18

Attended AGM of our affiliate the NPC South Eastern Regional Branch.

Re- elected as Assistant Secretary for Sussex. Amongst the topics discussed was the NPC Dignity Day National Lobby on 1st Feb. for the adoption by NHS, Local Authority and Private providers of Health and Social Services of the NPC Dignity Code. Arrangements were agreed to distribute leaflets outside the County Hospital in Brighton.

22/1/18

Age Friendly City Forum Meeting

Julie O'Neil B&H Manager gave presentation on Library services and information about a public satisfaction consultation which *inter alia* indicated security concerns about the Libraries Extra Service on days when only volunteers were present. She also stated that staff at Jubilee Street had undergone training in assisting customers with dementia.

Mathew Moors who runs the Dementia Action Alliance Project at Age UK Brighton gave an update of the project the funding for which expires at the end of this year. The members present expressed the view that we should lobby for the post to be extended further.

24/1/18

Health & Social Care Performance & Information Group

An ad hoc version of the usual formal meeting was held in the absence of the usual Chair and an officer from the Performance Team due to sickness. Power point presentation led by Rob Persey Executive Director Health & Social Care who outlined the statistical performance of B&H for 2016/17 against national and local standards which were mostly on target with the exception of the take up of direct payments by people on social benefits and that we were "under-performing" on those.

An Adult Social Care User Survey for the same period was circulated to members of the Health & Wellbeing Board and the HOSC. This contains interesting comments on home care provision and social isolation by service users and can be viewed on the council's web site.

26/1/18

Attended Meeting of OPT Care Advisory Group

London palliative elderly care research project's assessment and consultation process to cover District Hospitals in West Sussex - carers and patients were discussed. Various comments about information material for circulation to patient and carers were suggested by the lay members of the group.

379 PRESENTATION FROM DR DAVID SUPPLE, CHAIR OF BRIGHTON & HOVE CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP (CCG)

379.1 Dr David Supple, Chair of Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group, presented the item.

379.2 Dr Supple told members that there was a need to find a balance in terms of the scale of Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs). This suggests a CCG footprint that is significantly larger than current organisational boundaries. The financial situation is important here, but is not the only driver: CCGs would probably have needed to look at scaling-up even without the current financial pressures. The alliance will provide a more robust platform than previous CCG joint arrangements. However, individual CCGs will remain the accountable bodies unless there is a change in legislation. It seems likely that the Government will eventually move to abolish the current model of individual, relatively small CCGs and it is important to be ahead of any such changes.

379.3 The alliance consists of Brighton & Hove, High Weald Lewes Havens, Horsham & Mid Sussex and Crawley CCGs. East Surrey CCG is expected to join imminently, as it is recognised that the CCGs which commission from Surrey & Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (SASH) need to be formally allied as do the CCGs commissioning from Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust (BSUH). This should make commissioning hospital services more effective.

379.4 In addition to the development of the alliance, there are local moves to more closely integrate B&H CCG and BHCC budgets. However, this is a complex task given the significant differences between the NHS and local government (e.g. councils means-test for services, but the NHS does not). If the OPC wants to explore this subject in detail, they should speak with the finance officers from both organisations.

379.5 As well as facilitating more effective commissioning of large scale contracts, the alliance is expected to improve recruitment, and to help with joining up clinical work-streams and in ensuring that there are consistent thresholds for treatment across the patch.

However, different areas do have different health priorities (e.g. HIV, mental health, suicide, transgender issues in Brighton & Hove), and it will be important not to lose sight of this.

- 379.6 In response to a question from Penny Morley on the NHSE consultation on prescriptions, Dr Supple told members that it is sensible not to prescribe drugs to those who pay for prescriptions when they could obtain them more cheaply over the counter. However, GP discretion to prescribe will remain.
- 379.7 In answer to a query from John Cook on the role of community pharmacists, Dr Supple responded by saying that pharmacists do represent additional healthcare capacity. However, it needs to be recognised that pharmacists tend to be very cautious in terms of diagnosis; that they do not have access to patient records; and that they are not paid to give advice. Pharmacists are increasingly being used 'in-house' by GP surgeries: for example to undertake medicine reconciliation which can significantly reduce the number of drugs that patients need to take.
- 379.8 In response to a question from the Chair on the inclusion of a medical centre as part of the Preston Barracks development, Dr Supple noted that there were some concerns about the size of the proposed facility: the current tendency is for larger scale GP practices. Dr Supple agreed to check whether there is more information available regarding this development.
- 379.9 In answer to a question from Michael Whitty on GPs owning their premises, Dr Supple told members that the local trend was for premises to be owned by third party developers.
- 379.10 In response to a query from Penny Morley on issues with GP recruitment, Dr Supple told members that some local practices found it relatively simple to recruit whilst others struggled, particularly in terms of finding GP partners. The CCG has identified the offer of mentoring and support for young GPs as a key factor in recruitment and has fed this back to the practices which are experiencing challenges. Recruitment in East Brighton remains a concern: it is typically much harder to recruit into more deprived areas.
- 379.11 Dr Supple told members that the local ratio of GPs to patients appears low compared to other areas, although it is unclear whether the ratio of patients to other health professionals working in general practice is also low.
- 379.12 Dr Supple explained that the recent closure of the Woodingdean surgery had been well handled, with all patients re-located to other surgeries. However, recent practice closures have meant that there is very little slack remaining in the local primary care system. It is hoped that more GPs can be recruited into existing services to help alleviate this pressure.
- 379.13 Dr Supple told members that GP practice clusters would enable practices to jointly run back office functions and equipment and to share best practice. The development of a local GP practice federation will also help things – by running a locum GP bank, something that CCGs are legally barred from doing.

379.14 In response to a question on nursing homes from Penny Morley, Dr Supple told members there was considerable variation in the numbers of nursing home residents attending A&E. It is important that nursing home staff are fully trained and that there is a medically-trained triage service for homes to call rather than going directly to 999.

379.15 In answer to a question on dementia services from Penny Morley, Dr Supple told members that a good deal of work needed to be done with regard to access to local community services. The Golden Ticket model developed by High Weald Lewes Havens CCG is one option worth exploring. The Chair noted that the Dementia Alliance had been doing excellent work, but that its contract was nearing an end and it was uncertain whether it would be renewed. Dr Supple agreed to find out what the situation was with this contract.

379.16 The Chair thanked Dr Supple for attending and told him that members would welcome an update in a few months' time.

380 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting concluded at 12.00pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

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A.

B.