

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE OF WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE ON MONDAY, 10 JULY 2023 AT 6.30 PM

Sub-Committee members present:

Wantage Town Council: Councillors JT Hannaby (Chair), A Crawford and R Fitzjohn

Other members: District and Grove Parish Councillor R Batstone, Grove Parish Councillor J Leggott, and J Hutchinson. J Maberley and J Parker.

Town Clerk: Mr W P Falkenau.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor J Hanna, Town Councillors A Dunford and V Wright, and M Swain and S Thwaite.

1. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests and any non-registrable interests.

Other and non-registerable interests were detailed as follows - Councillor Hannaby declared an interest as a member of the Hospital League of Friends and a Trustee of the Wantage Nursing Home Trust. J Maberley and J Parker are members of the Newbury Street Patient Group. All the above were also members of the Save The Hospital Group. J Parker is a member of the South Oxfordshire Patient Alliance.

2. Statements and Questions from the public

None.

3.. Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2023

The minutes were approved.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

7. Physiotherapy services at Community Hospital - The Clerk had been advised that physiotherapy services had been restarted at the Community Hospital. This was queried. The Clerk was to check to clarify this.

Action: Clerk

5. To consider follow up to workshop held on 28 June 2023

The NHS were proposing a meeting or workshop on Tuesday 18 July. At this stage the purpose was unclear. A report from the 28 June workshop was due to be received on the coming Wednesday.

The workshop had been positive. Principal questions that arose were why were Wantage area residents having to travel some distance to other towns for diagnostic services and why those being discharged from the John Radcliffe Hospital being placed at nursing homes at some distance from the Wantage area?

Whilst consideration might be given to accepting the permanent closure of the beds at the Wantage Community Hospital, it was felt that any alternative should be local and involve rehabilitation services.

It was agreed that the Clerk should contact local care homes to ascertain whether they would be willing to be contracted to provide beds for those being discharged from hospital and what services could be provided.

Action: Clerk

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There was a need to seek clarity about the follow up to the workshop.

Action: Chair

6. Reports from HOSC and other meetings

There was nothing further to report.

7, Other business

None.

8. Dates of future meetings

14 September, 26 October 2023, 11 January and 22 February 2024.

The meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.

WPF
