

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE OF WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE ON THURSDAY 23 MAY 2024 AT 7.30 PM

Sub-Committee members present:

Wantage Town Council: Councillors J Hannaby (Chair), C Walters

Other members: P Barrow, R Batsone, J Hutchinson, J Parker

Town Clerk: Mrs J Evans.

Apologies for absence: S Stephenson (GRoW), J Maberley, M Swain, J Leggott

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

JH – member of league of friends, member of HOSC

JP Newbury Street Patient Committee, South Oxfordshire patient alliance;

2. Statements and Questions from the public

None

3. To confirm the terms of reference for the committee

‘Other health issues that affect the health of the residents of the town’ to be added. Clerk to circulate.

Matters arising from the minutes of meeting held on 22 February 2024

- a) **Physiotherapy Services at Wantage Hospital.** Comments had been received about the service at the hospital. The issue was that people had to travel for the service. The complaints had been sent to Dan Levison who had suggested sending the concerns to PALS. It was felt that staffing levels were low because of the difficulties in recruiting. The MD of connect has offered to come and speak to JH directly. JH will arrange the meeting. **Action: Cllr Hannaby**

4. To receive and update on the Community Hospital Project

A meeting was held in the silver band hall. A survey was to be sent out to all schools and nurseries. There is a QR code on the poster with a link to the survey. One of the questions being asked was what difficulties parents had experienced getting their children to the health service. Once the survey had been delivered there will be more advertising about the community meeting on 18th June in The Beacon. This meeting will give an update on progress. The project team is currently meeting weekly, and it was hoped that plans for the hospital will be available for 18th June meeting. Work on the services to go into the hospital had slowed right down.

The question of parking was raised. This matter had not been resolved. It was pointed out that people would not be in the hospital for long. Although there was a feeling that lack of parking could be an issue for parents bringing children, it was felt that there was not much that could be done to improve the situation. It was noted that that school health nurses would be moved to Mably Way.

Clerk to circulate the survey poster to members of Health committee. It was suggested that posters are put up at the band hall and scout hut. **Action: Clerk**

5. HOSC Report

Cllr Barrow reported on a meeting that was held this morning. Headlines were:

- a) a decision on CIL was due in August 2024.
- b) There is a legacy which is being used to improve the look and feel of the hospital.

6. Other business

- a) It was asked whether dentistry would go onto the agenda for this committee. It was felt that it would be best to wait until HOSC dealt with it. A survey to ascertain the local problems could be considered.

7. Dates of next meeting

10th July 224 at 7.30pm in the Challow Room, The Beacon

The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.
