

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 3 APRIL, 2017 AT 4.00 P.M.**  
**IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK**  
**PART 1**

PRESENT: Councillors:

Freeman, Miss M.A. (Chairman)  
Sutton, Mrs. H.M. (Vice-Chairman)

Allt, Mrs. A.	Martin, Mrs. C.E.
Cooper, Miss J.	Smith, C.D.
Dudson, Miss. M.J.	Woodhead, P.E.
Lea, C. (Substitute)	

Also present:

- Staffordshire County Council Co-opted Member Councillor Mrs. D. Todd

Observing:

- Councillor Mrs. M.A. Davis, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Leader
- Councillor Mrs. C. Mitchell, Culture and Sport Portfolio Leader

#### **47. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J.P. Johnson and Miss. S. Whitehouse. An apology was also received from Elizabeth Learoyd, Advocacy Manager, Healthwatch Staffordshire.

Notification had been received that Councillor C. Lea would be substitute for Councillor J.P. Johnson.

#### **48. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restrictions on Voting by Members and Party Whip Declarations**

No declarations of interests in additions to those already confirmed by Members in the Register of Members Interests were made.

#### **49. Minutes**

A Member referred to Minute 43, Page 35 and reported that following discussions with volunteers at New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton, patients were using the

bus service despite it being reported at the last meeting that only staff were using the service between both sites. She highlighted that whilst letters being forwarded to patients mentioned the bus service, there were no specific details and only an email address to contact to make arrangements.

A Member referred to Minute 43, Page 37 and asked for confirmation as to whether the buses used to transport patients were wheelchair accessible.

Members of the Committee expressed other concerns around bus times and transport arrangements from Rugeley to Wolverhampton which often meant patients would be required to catch 3 buses.

Concern was also expressed that a patient had experienced problems locating the bus stop due to eye drops having been administered. The Member asked if patient eye appointment letters could include where necessary relevant details advising the patient that they may require eye drops.

Members asked that communication be forwarded to the Chief Executive of the Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust highlighting their concerns.

A Member referred to Minute 43, Page 36 and reported that children from local schools also used the hydrotherapy suite and not just the groups previously discussed. She indicated that the two groups and both received communication and the charge for the usage of the suite would now be £25 per hour. However, she was unsure if the arthritis group would continue using the facility.

The Chairman referred to Minute 44, Page 38 and asked the Democratic Services Officer to liaise with the Healthwatch representative with regard to a booklet which was going to be supplied for Members of the Committee.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 February, 2017 be approved as a correct record.
- (B) That communication be forwarded to the Chief Executive of the Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust expressing concerns from Members of the Health Scrutiny Committee in respect of transport provision and relevant information within patient appointment letters.

## **50. Public Health Initiatives**

The Chairman welcomed Natalie Barrow, District Public Health Development Officer to the meeting to discuss health projects around the District.

Natalie Barrow discussed her role with Members of the Committee and explained that she worked closely with partners including the Clinical Commissioning Group and Staffordshire County Council on areas around health in order to improve health outcomes for residents within the District.

She explained that focus was upon four key areas: physical activity, diet

behaviours, alcohol misuse and improving self care and quality of life. Around 20 projects had been delivered since 2014 with 9 high performing projects which had shown healthy outcomes.

She reported that funding had been very successful over the last 2 years although there would be no further funding from August, 2017 which would bring the projects to an end. Whilst the projects would not be funded they could still be developed in order to tackle health issues and improve health and wellbeing.

Natalie Barrow discussed the idea of setting up a project such as social prescribing where a primary care professional would refer people to a range of local, non-clinical services. She then referred to the Longford Centre, Cannock and the Forever Fit Scheme run in conjunction with the Chase Community Partnership which provided help with nutrition and exercise. As a consequence of this project a number of people had stopped taking medication completely and this could also help assist in reducing the use of NHS services.

She then highlighted the following current projects:

- Staffordshire Athletics Network – a group to target inactive adults and get people moving over 8 weeks. ‘Couch to 5k’ ‘Park run’
- Doorstep Active (Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles project) – involves taking physical activity into the community
- Chase fit (Inspiring Healthy Lifestyle project) – getting people walking
- Friends of Hednesford Park – funding received to enable volunteers to renovate Hednesford Park signal box into a community hub

A Member asked what the likelihood was of the projects continuing following the withdrawal of funding.

Natalie Barrow explained that 9 out of 10 projects would remain due to mechanisms that had been put in place, however some projects would cease although alternative sources of funding were being explored.

## **51. Annual Review**

The Work Programme of the Health Scrutiny Committee for 2016-17 was circulated and Members were asked if there were any comments they wished to make in relation to the work that had been undertaken over the year.

### 6 September, 2016 – Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles

Members discussed this area and it was hoped that further promotion and engagement could be carried out.

Members asked that as part of the Work Programme for 2017-18 Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles should be invited back to provide the Committee with an update on their work including projects.

Mike Edmonds, Head of Environment and Healthy Lifestyles informed Members

that Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles were currently in the process of formulating a calendar of events.

18 October, 2016 – Mental Health and Wellbeing Issues

A Member referred to a presentation given at a past meeting of the Committee where Nicola Bromage from Staffordshire County Council was invited to talk about mental health and wellbeing. She asked if it was possible for something similar from the South Staffordshire and Shropshire NHS Trust to be included on the Work Programme for 2017-18.

10 November, 2016 – Informal Meeting with Dr. Huda, Chair Cannock Chase Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

A Member asked that as part of the Work Programme for 2017-18 Dr. Huda be invited back to the Committee to provide Members with an update, and a request for the new Chief Officer of the Stafford and Surrounds CCG to be invited.

7 December, 2016 – Environmental Health Food Hygiene Service

The Chairman commented on the excellent presentation given.

14 February, 2017 – Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust

A Member asked that as part of the Work Programme for 2017-18, an invite be extended to a representative of University Hospitals North Midlands to discuss services at both the County Hospital and Royal Stoke University Hospital.

**52. Quarter 3 Performance Report 2016-17 – More and Better Health Priority Delivery Plan**

To develop and provide a new community AGP, 7v7 grass pitch and changing pavilion at Bradbury Lane, Hednesford

It was reported that the community AGP opened on 1 March, 2017. It was found that due to the popularity of the facility, there had been some parking issues. However, this was now being monitored by Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles and consideration was being given to utilising the grassed area for parking.

Mike Edmonds reported that young children local to the community AGP were being given the opportunity to use the facility between the quieter hours of 4:30-5:30pm for £1 each.

Members noted the contents of the Quarter 3 Performance Report 2016-17, More and Better Health Priority Delivery Plan.

**53. Healthwatch Staffordshire – Update**

It was previously reported that the representative from Healthwatch, Staffordshire would not be in attendance.

A Member wished to pass on her thanks for the information she had received from the Healthwatch representative with regard to the issue of transportation between Rugeley and Royal Stoke University Hospital.

#### **54. Staffordshire County Council's Healthy Staffordshire Select Committee - Update**

It was reported that two presentations had taken place, one which was confidential with regard to Collaborative Working – Burton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Derby Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and the other from the University Hospitals North Midlands NHS Trust – Action Plans and Progress where discussions were had concerning finances.

The Chairman referred to the previous closure of the children's A&E services at the County Hospital and was keen to know if any decision on re-opening had been made. However, at present there was no information on this.

#### **55. Forward Items for 2017-18 Work Programme**

Mike Edmonds asked whether, in addition to the suggestions made in item 51 above, there were any items that Members wished to be considered by the new Health Culture & Environment Scrutiny Committee for inclusion in its Work Programme for 2017-18.

The following items were discussed:

- Patient Participation Groups – only a third of GP Practices in the District have them
- Free NHS Health Check – why the take-up in Staffordshire for the check was lower than neighbouring authorities

The Chairman and Members wished to pass on their thanks to former Head of Environmental Health, Steve Shilvock for his support to the Committee.

Members also thanked the Chairman for her support to the Committee over the past year.

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CHAIRMAN

The meeting closed at 4.52 pm