

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 3 JULY, 2012 AT 4.00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Gamble, B. (Chairman)
Bennett, C. (Vice-Chairman)

Ball, G.D. Freeman, Miss. M.
Bernard, Mrs. A.F. Sutton, Mrs. H.M.
Fisher, P.A.

(The Chairman reported that he had agreed to the order of the agenda being amended).

1. Apologies

There were no apologies received.

2. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restrictions on Voting by Members

There were no interests declared.

3. Minutes

AGREED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 April, 2012 be approved as a correct record.

4. Appointment of Representative to Staffordshire County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee

Consideration was given to the appointment of the Council's representative to Staffordshire County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee for the 2012-13 Municipal Year. The Chairman advised that he wished to represent the District on the Staffordshire County Council Committee.

The Chairman discussed the Staffordshire County Council's Joint Health Accountability Sessions with Members of the Committee and advised that there were 6 places available for Members which had not previously been taken up and it was hoped Members would consider it this time.

Mr. S. Shilvock, Head of Environmental Health provided further details on the sessions and explained that the meetings were intended to be held on a bi-monthly basis until October when the public inquiry into The Mid Staffs NHS Foundation Trust was submitted. He advised that he would forward dates to Members and asked that questions be submitted in advance of the sessions.

AGREED:

That Councillor B. Gamble be appointed as the Council's representative to Staffordshire County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee for the 2012-13 Municipal Year.

5. Confirmation of the Nominated Member from Staffordshire County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee

AGREED:

That Members confirm Staffordshire County Council's nominated Member Councillor G. Martin to the Council's Health Scrutiny Committee for the 2012-13 Municipal Year.

6. Appointment of Independent Co-Opted Member

The Head of Environmental Health explained that previously Members of the Committee agreed that a LINK representative be appointed as the Independent Co-opted Member. However, he reported that Local Health Watch would replace LINK in the future and it was suggested that Members may wish to wait and nominate when Health Watch was established.

AGREED:

That the determination of the appointment of a Co-opted Member to the Health Scrutiny Committee be made when the Local Health Watch is established.

7. Formulation of the Work Programme

The Head of Environmental Health provided information to Members of the Committee on both the roles of the Health Scrutiny Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Policy Development Committee. He commented that the Policy Development Committee could propose new or amended policies to Cabinet.

He explained that the Health Scrutiny Committee could review and scrutinise matters relating to health services within the District under delegated powers from Staffordshire County Council, although the primary powers rested with the County Council.

The Head of Environmental Health indicated that it was likely that a meeting would be held at Staffordshire County Council in the next few weeks to determine the work to be undertaken at a joint level and locally. He stated that he would provide Members with the Code of Joint Working Arrangements and information on the Joint Health Accountability Sessions.

A Member raised concern in respect of how finances were distributed by GP's each year,

and was keen that the Committee made sure that health and social care was properly delivered and scrutinised. He commented that commissioning terms of reference and business plans were required from GP Practices in order to see the areas where funds were being spent on patient care. He was also concerned that without this information the Committee would not be able to deal with complaints from patients.

In response to this the Chairman reported that there had been no engagement with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) although a discussion had been held in respect of the situation with representatives at Stafford Hospital and it was hoped that a joint meeting could be held with the Committee.

A Member referred to a previous meeting of the Committee and stressed how difficult it was for the Committee to ensure the attendance of a representative. When Dr. McMahon did attend to talk with the Committee he advised that he would visit again. She therefore suggested that an invite be extended to him to receive an update.

On this basis, a Member of the Committee suggested that it may be a good idea for Members of the Committee to consider questions for him. It was agreed that questions be forwarded to the Head of Environmental Health with a view to arranging an additional meeting in order that Dr. McMahon could be invited to provide an update in respect of the CCGs.

Members of the Committee made further comments in respect of the CCG especially with regard to the number of GPs in Cannock who were unhappy with the arrangements. Comments were also made about the health of people with regard to the health profile for Cannock Chase.

AGREED:

- (A) That an invite be extended to Dr. McMahon to provide an update with regard to the CCGs
- (B) That additional meetings of the Health Scrutiny Committee be arranged in view of the proposals for CCGs.
- (C) That Members of the Health Scrutiny Committee forward questions they may wish to raise with Dr. McMahon to the Head of Environmental Health

8. District Health Profile

The Head of Environmental Health circulated a copy of the Health Profile for Cannock Chase 2012 and the Health and Wellbeing Profile for the District 2012 (a full version of the document was available should Members be of interest). He referred to the Health Profile 2012 and discussed the average rate for England.

Reference was then made to the summary document of the Health and Wellbeing Profile for the District 2012 where a number of areas of improvement were reported. Those areas were 5 Living Well, 5.1 Smoking and 5.3 Obesity which showed a small reduction.

A Member referred to the Health Profile and in particular 4.8.2 Adults with long-term

conditions and reported on the number of people with dementia problems who were waiting to be referred to memory clinics to determine if they had the condition. He suggested that a letter be forwarded to the PCT with a request asking for the number of people registered or who were awaiting tests at the memory clinic.

AGREED:

That the Head of Environmental Health liaise with the PCT in respect of dementia care.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Members noted the date of the next meeting scheduled for Monday 3 September, 2012.

CHAIRMAN

(The meeting closed at 5.05 p.m.).