

Forest of Dean Health Forum
West Dean Centre, Bream
Tuesday 2nd May 2017 – 7.00-9.00pm

Minutes

Albert Weager – Chair	Linda Vaughan – Secretary
Jim Spiers – Treasurer	Celia Wear – Forest Routes Comm. Transport
Di Martin – Committee/Cinderford TC	Don Pugh – Lydney T
Marilyn Cox – Steering Group Coleford NDP	Angela Davies – Friends of LDH
Marie Fraser Griffiths – Friends LDH	Mary Thurston – Friends of LDH
Tony Midgley – Friends LDH	Brian James – Friends LDH
Shaun Stammers – Mitcheldean PC	Neil Moffat – Gloucestershire Care Services
Mary Matthews – Bream Ladies Group	Doug Battersby
Lyndon Biddle – Newent Ass for Disabled	Peggy Jordan – Public
Mark Elson – Forest Review	Caroline Smith – Glos CCG
Barbara Jenkins – public	Hilary Bowen – Gov 2Gether & Barnwood Trust
Lynn Sterry – Cinderford TC	Lynn Teague – Citizens Advice Bureau
Jackie Jenkins – GCS	Roger Sterry – Cinderford TC
Terry Hale – FODDC/Newland	

1. Welcome and Introductions – The Chair welcomed everyone and introduced our Speaker, Deborah Lee – Chief Executive of Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

2. Apologies: Pam Plummer, Clive and Eileen Elsmore, Dr Peter Jacks

3. Speaker: Deborah Lee - – Chief Executive of Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Deborah gave a short presentation outlining her background, her vision and her plans for the Hospitals Trust. Her first impressions were mainly positive but she could see areas for improvement and huge possibilities for the future.

The many challenges include Financial Recovery, rising demand and increasing expectations, poor performance in some service areas, declining resources, workforce constraints and site and service configuration.

The Opportunities include a talented and dedicated workforce, a new, capable and ambitious Board and Governing Council, the geography, the potential of the partnerships and service reconfiguration.

The session followed with questions from the floor:

Barbara Jenkins asked about the outcome from hospitals procedures and the system for information given to patients. Deborah replied that the outcome should make the patient feel safe, feel good and be beneficial. Therefore on discharge there should be a checklist including a discharge summary, drugs, next appointment which will be sent electronically to the GP with a paper copy for patients. It is important for the hospital to communicate well and in partnership with other services. It is important that this is consistent throughout all departments.

Tony Midgley reflected upon the importance of community hospitals and their role in the Forest. He spoke about the huge contribution made by the community whose fundraising has provided a new x-ray suite at Lydney which is shortly to be commissioned but is not yet staffed. Deborah admitted that there are staffing problems in radiology but that this should be sorted in June.

Mr Brian James questioned the hierarchy of need when it comes to recruitment and gave the example of cardiology. Deborah said that recruitment has been a problem but it is important to get the right candidate.

Close working with Gloucestershire College has made a noted improvement through apprenticeships for medical equipment and estates and facilities staff.

Shaun Stammers mentioned transport difficulties which need to expand or improve. Deborah said that the CCG would need to ask for resources for expansion. Again recruitment might be an issue. An Urgent Care Centre initiative with basic diagnostics would be helpful. There are already 5 in Gloucestershire.

Albert asked if, within the Sustainable Transformation Plan (STP), there would be the same bed capacity in our local hospitals. Deborah replied that the STP is an integrated plan which would enable patients to go home earlier and would use community services more efficiently. With End of Life Care, 70% of patients want to die at home but only 30% do so. Likewise a hospital bed should be available if wanted. Hospital at home care need to be reviewed and again there are staff issues especially with regard to the right training and pay to attract the right people.

Neil Moffat enquired about joined up discharges and asked about the integrated technology system for discharges. It appears that the IT system could be a problem for a while yet. In the meantime an analysis of why patients are still in hospital is being carried out and the criteria needs to be aligned with Gloucestershire Care Services. Staff rotation will aid the understanding of roles and help with the co-ordination of services.

It was noted that the Neighbourhood Development plans need to be included and an adequate infrastructure provision and timing needs to be considered.

The aim is to reduce the number of people who are in hospital and Primary Care is essential in acting as the gateway defining what each unit can and should be doing, with the aim being to reduce the need for hospital admission.

It is hoped that the STP (sustainable Transformation Plan) may be ready for July.

Hilary remarked about the fact that in Wales the care for older people is better than in England and Deborah pointed out that the fact that they have a Single Trust make it a smoother process.

4. Matters Arising - Nil

5. News Updates and correspondence

FVAf are offering the following training

- Saturday 20th May – Safeguarding Children and Young Adults – 9 am – 1 pm – Forest Road Unemployment Community Resource Centre
- Saturday 15th July – Emergency First Aid at Work – Level 2 – 9 am to 4.30 pm – St Stephen’s Church, Cinderford

Contact: Daphne Didus

Administrative Office, Forest Voluntary Action Forum, Belle Vue Centre, Cinderford, Glos GL14 2AB

Tel: 01594 822073

- **Severn Wye Energy Agency have been granted the Warm and Well contract for a further 3 years.** This means we will continue to deliver our energy efficiency services on behalf of all Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire local authorities. Do have a look at our **lovely new website** with lots of free downloadable advice brochures: www.warmandwell.co.uk
- free impartial and local energy advice on our free advice line – 0800 500 3076 (9am - 5pm Mon-Fri)
- free home energy visits to vulnerable people and those with health conditions that are made worse from being cold*
- grants for insulation and heating*
- help with switching energy supplier
- the Link to Energy network of local installers

Please note that the CAB can offer help in switching energy suppliers.

6. Chair's report

The Chair is to attend a meeting with the new Healthwatch organisation which has now been amalgamated with Wiltshire. The Chief Executive of Healthwatch has been invited to the July meeting.

Albert and Linda were welcomed to a meeting at Mitcheldean Parish council to talk about the Forum and give them information about how their grant money has been spent.

7. **Treasurers Report**- Balance as at 2nd April - £1053.89

8. Members Reports

You can call 105 if you have a problem with power distribution and you will get a message to explain the issue.

9. AOB

The Ambulance Trust will be attending the next meeting on June 6th.

Healthwatch will attend in July.

