

Forest of Dean Health Forum
West Dean Centre, Bream
Tuesday 1st May 2018 – 7.00-9.00pm

Minutes

Present:

Albert Weager – Chair	Jim Spiers – Treasurer
Linda Vaughan – Secretary	Lynn Teague – CAB
Di Martin – Cinderford TC	P. Jordan
Frank McGuinness – West Dean PC	Doug Battersby
Chrissie Johnson	Jackie Jenkins – GCS
Steve Longton – Friends LDH	Brian James – Friends LDH
Mary Thurston – Friends LDH	John Thurston – Friends LDH
Mary Matthews – Bream Ladies	

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Albert welcomed our Speaker and the members present.
2. **Speaker:** – Hannah Eton-Wall – General Manager of Artspace to talk about the Mindscape Project for people with Dementia, their families and carers.

Hannah explained how the ArtSpace project had started in order to involve people with specific needs, with 50% having learning or physical difficulties. The MindScape project has evolved with the aim of improving the wellbeing of people with dementia, their families and carers by connecting them to nature and encouraging them to do something creative. It has been proved that a connection to nature makes us feel better and that creativity and natural beauty go hand in hand to improve our wellbeing.

Mindspace is based at the Orchard Trust smallholding at Lydbrook and works in partnership with Artspace, Forestry Commission, FODDC and Dementia Adventure.

They hold a series of fortnightly sessions led by professional artists, staff and volunteers. The activities range from short walks, painting, drawing, pottery, various art projects, followed by lunch with a time to chat and drink tea. They also hold informal social activities such as singing and dancing. The groups also enjoy working with memories, giving the opportunity to have conversations about favourite places and the chance to reminisce.

Natural beauty provides a very therapeutic environment and helps to take someone to a happier place, and the activities can give carers a momentary break.

They have also taken the project into Care Homes.

The key benefits are:

- Improved emotional state.
- Improved physical health
- Improved verbal expression
- Improved memory and attention
- Improved awareness
- Improved sense of well-being, independence, self-esteem and control
- Improved social interaction.

3. Apologies: Hilary Bowen, Cheryl Haswell, Melvyn Preston, Lynn Sterry, Roger Sterry, Shaun Stammers.

4. Matters Arising:

The Citizen's Jury has been postponed until the end of July so that there can be more information and local involvement. Mr John Thurston has spoken to Dr Oswald who confirmed that they need more time and may need to adapt the methodology following the valid concerns that had been raised. There is also the issue of the Judicial review which had been applied for and which may influence the outcomes. 177 people applied to be on the jury and these people will be reconsidered along with any further applicants before deadline of 18th June. There will be a press release this week.

The number of beds planned for the new hospital continues to cause concern and the basis for calculating the number needed in the future needs to be addressed. There are a lot of new houses being built and there is the possibility that the patients currently in our cross-border areas may not have been included in the numbers. Albert pointed out that there are plans to use Chapel House in Gloucester for step-down beds for Gloucester patients so that they do not get transferred to the Forest hospitals.

A "Hospital at Home" system is also being developed. Concern was raised about the resourcing of this as we are already struggling to meet social care needs.

There was interest in whether the new Chief Executive, Mr Paul Roberts would bring anything to the process. Albert has set up a meeting with Mr Roberts and Mary Hutton on 18th May which will be attended by a focus group consisting of the Friends of Lydney Hospital, League of Friends from the Dilke, Albert and Linda.

The next Locality Reference Group meeting is at 10.00 am on 10th May at Great Oaks.

A lot of work is being done to develop a model of care for patients who fall into the "Frailty" category with GPs and others doing assessments aimed at prevention and support.

Healthwatch has not yet engaged fully with Patient and Public representatives.

Albert attended a meeting organised by Bren Mcinerney who had invited Prof Sir Michael Marmot to see the work of community volunteers in the Matson area. Sir Michael is an Epidemiologist at University College London whose special interest is health inequalities. The information about the work being done at Matson has been passed to Shaun Stammers to assist him in his project at Cinderford, discussed at our previous meeting.

Frank McGuinness informed the meeting of the Lucozade Ribena Suntori involvement in the community and their principles including a "Movement " Fund supporting disadvantaged groups to access sport and activity. They also promote and encourage health and wellness for all employees.

GDAS – Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Service has received some funding but with a £100K reduction. Sarah Pinkney from GDAS will be our speaker in October.

5. News Updates and correspondence - nil

6. Chair's report- attached

7. Treasurers Report – Balance of £814.35

8. Members Reports and Questions – as above

9. Future meetings:

June 5th – Carol McIndoe Patient Experience Improvement Manager/Disability & Equality

July 3rd – Ingrid Barker and Paul Roberts (*Joint Chair and Joint Chief Executive for Gloucestershire Care Services NHS Trust and 2gether NHS Foundation Trust*) will both attend the Health Forum on the evening of July 3rd.

10.AOB

Chair's Report to Forest Health Forum May 1st. 2018

April 16th. A&E Delivery Board.

April 17th. Healthwatch Gloucestershire PPI event.

April 19th. Hospital Focus Group meeting.

April 24th Invitation to meet Sir Michael Marmot at Matson.

The Urgent and Emergency Care system in Gloucestershire is working well with plans in place for improvement for the winter of 2018-19. These include patient experience and system flow requiring a multi disciplinary, integrated, approach around Community Hospitals admission prevention, ED admission prevention and Flow.

Currently calls to the ambulance service are increasing as is the number of patients being conveyed to ED.

ED 4 hour performance is improving and reached 86.7 in March. More patients are going to Ambulatory Emergency Care (AEC) for assessment and treatment, avoiding admission.

There are fewer delayed transfers of care with transfers to and direct admissions to, community hospitals decreasing.

Plans are in place to allow GPs direct access to consultants, by winter of 2017.

A new system wide frailty model of care is being developed.

The Healthwatch Gloucestershire event at Churchdown was designed to let HWG establish what motivates and makes effective patient representatives, as these are needed on a range of NHS groups.

The visit to the Redwell Centre at Matson allowed me to meet with Prof. Sir Michael Marmot Epidemiologist , University College, London (UCL) whose special interest is health inequalities.

He met with local community workers and learned of their work in the community, A director of Barnwood Trust who gave him insights into the work of the Trust. I was able to speak about the Health Forum and its role in the community and about my role as a patient representative.

The new hospital focus group met to discuss its expectations from NHS Gloucestershire.

Albert Weager Chair