

Health and Wellbeing Working Group Minutes

Tuesday 13 February 2024 TEAMS Meeting (Virtual) 3.30pm – 5pm

Present CTC: Cllr Suzy Firkin (Chair), Cllr Emma Hall, Cllr Amanda Martin, Cllr Heather Pearce, Cllr Richard Walton, Cllr Kay Wesley, Jackie MacArthur (CTC)

Guests: Rachel Wallace, Head of Communications and Engagement NHS Cheshire East Trust (until item 5) Usman Ashiq, Plus Dane Community Engagement Officer (part of item 3) Dr Paul Bishop Lawton House Surgery (3.45 – 4.35)

1. **Apologies** Cllr Liz Wardlaw, Cllr David Brown
2. **Draft Agenda Approval** – approved
Notes of the meeting of 13 February also approved
Action: Add Notes of Meeting of Previous Meeting to the Agenda

3. Review of Action Log

Work outstanding:

1. Promotion around Primary Care Network (needs to be time appropriate)
2. Disability-positive objectives – long-term projects, but work started
3. Inclusive Living – blockage with CEC
4. Hospital League of Friends – being picked up by Rachel Wallace's team
5. Work on adding value to the Health and Wellbeing Calendar

Usman from Plus Dane gave an update of the Wellbeing Hub planned for the 2nd floor of Worrall Street. Work still progressing on governance, logistics, health and safety, risks and barriers and suitable IT solutions. Envisaging the hub will be a 12-month pilot. Likely to cost around £33k, Plus Dane already secured £30k. Plus Dane would manage the project for the first 12 months. Hoping that Plus Dane will sign off the project at the end of February and then 2-3 months to prepare the building. Aiming for long-term success. 10 delivery partners interested in using the space.

Action: 3.1 Usman to keep the group updated on progress and support that is required.

4. Update on Primary Care Network - Dr Paul Bishop.

Work is ongoing to improve Primary Care delivery in Congleton and Holmes Chapel. Physical distance and for ease of patients the two towns will have different solutions. GP surgeries welcome the Diagnostic centre to be built at the War Memorial Hospital –localness will be beneficial for speeding up tests. An advanced nurse practitioner has been appointed to help across the CHOC surgeries. There are currently 48,600 patients registered with the 4 surgeries. All the surgeries are growing in patient numbers. From January 2019 – 2024

- Holmes Chapel Surgery practice list size increased by 600 patients
- Readsmoor Surgery practice list size increased by 1200 patients
- Lawton House Surgery practice list size increased by 1600 patients
- Meadowside practice list size increased by 800 patients

The estimated growth is a further 9% by 2028. There are issues around treatment space locally and also a national problem of recruiting GPs. Many local health professionals are

nearing the end of their working lives. Finding solutions for delivering health care locally is a priority. General discussion around this followed.

The Chair thanked Dr Bishop for updating the group

Action: 4.1 Will give space in the Town Council newsletter and support communications when the Cheshire East NHS is in a position to start consultations.

Action: 4.2 Invite Dr. Bishop and Dr. Buckley to speak at future Community Committees

5. Update on the War Memorial 100 years celebrations – Rachel Wallace, NHS East Cheshire

Rachel updated the group on East Cheshire NHS Trust and plans to celebrate 100 years of Congleton War Memorial Hospital.

- a) Noted the 100th birthday is officially the 22 May (not 4 August) Town Council is working on plans for a 1920s hospital fete in the park. The Aston Ward looking at a tea party with nurses in uniforms from the decades.
- b) The NHS Trust will write a monthly column in the Chronicle.
- c) Launching a charity appeal for the hospital and gaining ideas of what local people would like to see the commemorate 100 years.
- d) Exploring ideas around a birthday card competition, artist in residents, health and wellbeing garden.
- e) Discussed the best ways to reach out to the Congleton public.

Actions:

5.1 Rachel W to contact the Hospital League of Friends regarding fundraising

5.2 Rachel W invited to speak at the Community Committee

5.3 Jackie to work with the Trust and others on an information stand in the Town Centre

5.4 Jackie to connect Rachel W to Alison Wright – Congleton Volunteer Action

6. Update on Support Living Centres in Congleton

Cllr Suzy Firkin told the group we are still waiting for updates from Cheshire East on Bradshaw House, Mountview and Moody Hall.

Action

6.1 – Cllr Suzy Firkin to enlist support from Cllr Wardlaw to get some answers from CEC

7. Disability Positive – Cllr Kay Wesley updated the group

The first meeting of representatives with a range of disabilities was held in the Town Hall on the 31st January. See Press release. The group will meet again in March. Members were found via social media or Town Council contacts. The group will be chaired by Deborah Lawson.

We have worked with the group on a survey and this has now been finalised and is open. The link is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CongAccess>. The survey closes on the 10th March.

A mobility event is being organised for Councillors.

Action 7.1: Group to share the Survey monkey details and encourage people to complete the survey.

Action 7.2: Arrange for Deborah to speak to Council or Community Committee about the Equal Access group.

Continue to work on actions previously agreed.

8. Health and Wellbeing Fayre

Cathy Dean is working on this event on Tuesday 25 March. 35 stalls confirmed and 4 workshops. Event is from 10am – 3pm. See [press release](#).

Action 8.1 Volunteers needed to help with the event – any group members able to help let Jackie or Cathy know (Cllrs Suzy Firkin, Cllr Kay Wesley and Cllr Amanda Martin volunteered)

9. Feedback from CEC Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Group.

Cllr Wardlaw was not able to make the meeting – add to agenda for April

Action 9.1 The Chair will seek an update from Cllr Wardlaw.

10. Well-Being Campaigns 2024 - Jackie MacArthur

A copy of the Google Docs calendar was shared Link to the Health and Wellbeing [calendar](#)

Actions

10.1 All members to see if there is any campaign that they could enhance.

10.2 Jackie to contact Kate Fallon re National No Smoking Day 13 March

10.3 Cllr Hall offered a free online yoga event for International Women's day – since withdraw as not available that day, but potential to offer it earlier in the week.

11. AOB – None

12. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 9 April 3.30pm – 5pm

Meeting ended 5.02pm