

Forest of Dean Health Forum
Tuesday 2nd June 2015 – 7.00-9.00pm

West Dean Centre, Bream

Minutes

Present:

Albert Weager – Chair	Di Martin – Committee
Linda Vaughan - Secretary	Barbara Jenkins
Lynn Sterry	Emily Toomer – Independence Trust
Hilary Bowen	Clive Elsmore – Coleford Town Council
Peggy Jordan	Eileen Elsmore - Coleford Town Council
Jane Lloyd – Village Agent	Tim Fretter – FVAF
Rosalie Knowles	Pat Harrison
Dr Peter Jackson – Glos Hosp Trust Governor	Roger Sterry
Roger James – West Dean Parish Council	Anna Rarity – Healthwatch Glos
Terry Hale – FODDC/Newland PC	
Joy Laricham – NOSPC Newnham on Severn	

1. Welcome and Introductions

Albert welcomed the attendees and apologised for the fact that the speakers for the evening had not arrived. Representatives from the South West Ambulance Trust were booked to talk about Hear & Treat, See & Treat. Albert to contact them to find out why they did not arrive.

2. Apologies

Lena Maller, Jenny Green, Jan Baynham, Pam Plummer, Lynn Teague, Cllr Claire Vaughan

3. Speakers - Representatives from the South West Ambulance Trust were booked to talk about Hear & Treat. Hopefully, this topic will be covered at a later date.

4. Matters Arising

Coleford Health Centre – closing of list – reply from Healthwatch. Healthwatch are involved and the situation will be monitored for the 3 month period of closure. It is understood that the practice is trying to recruit a GP to cover a retirement and maternity leave. In the meantime extra triage nurses are being employed.

5. News Updates and correspondence – Mrs H reported the difficulties encountered with the Out of Hours community staffing levels which had resulted in her husband having to go to GRH or CGH on a number of occasions instead of being treated locally. It would appear that there are only 2 District Nurses on duty for the whole of Gloucestershire from 10.30pm to 6.00am and they travel together for security. On one occasion the nurses were in Berkeley and had no money for the Bridge so would have had to travel back to the Forest via Gloucester. Questions were raised about the shortage of staff and the skill-set of the practitioners who are on duty.

Albert will ask questions when he attend the Urgent Care Governance Group at the end of the month.

Linda will ask if the OOH community team are meeting their targets for the Forest of Dean.

Linda will obtain more leaflets about Integrated Community Teams for distribution to the members.

- **Redevelopment of Colliers Court** due for completion in the autumn.

Services will include psychologists, physiotherapists, art therapists, and psychiatrists from the Forest Recovery Team, Children and Young Peoples Services. The Community Learning Disabilities team are already in place.

- **Healthwatch AGM -18th June.**
- **Community Transport Survey and Volunteer session** 3rd June at Yorkley Community Centre.
- **Forest Sensory Services Dinner** – 27th June at Speech House.

Tickets from Jenny Green tel: 01594 827711

- **Choose and Book** – Patients are being asked if they want to be seen in the Forest but it is important to ask your GP when you are referred and to ask at the hospital when you make a follow up appointment.

Linda will remind Margy Fowler to let us have a list of clinics in the Forest and will ask Dr Lench to highlight this at the CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group)

6. **Treasurers Report** Balance of £491.91

7. **Members Report**

More defibrillators are to be installed in the Forest.

Linda will ask the ambulance trust if there is a list of locations. There is a training session planned at the Methodist Chapel in Coalway. Date to be confirmed.

Clive Elsmore reported that the result of the analysis of bus services should be available in about 2 weeks' time.

There was a mention that a new hospital for the Forest may be in the pipeline. No confirmation of this as yet.

Albert is on the Systems Resilience Group which looks at elective and non-elective care. He reported that work is in progress so that all services will be integrated. Albert will ask Caroline Smith to update us on Co-commissioning and GP Provider plans later in the year.

The emergency department is aiming to reach 95% 4hr waiting time but the 15 minute assessment time is not being met. Weekend working and longer hours for services are planned and Consultants are being asked to vary their rotas so that there is more availability at weekends. A Healthcare Professional Vehicle from the Ambulance Trust is available to GP practices to take patients to hospital when an ambulance is not needed.

There is a build-up of patients at weekends and so discharge procedures and pathways are being evolved to prevent “bed blocking”.

Urology update – there is a new consultant and the aim is for 7 day working with initial assessment and tests taking place at the same time. Orthopaedics are already doing this.

There is a plan for a single hub to incorporate all services so that patients and professionals know the appropriate number to ring.

Frequent attenders – 120 patients attend the emergency department at least 12 times a year. It is hoped that social prescribing may have a positive impact on these patients.

The Emergency Department is to be expanded to cope with the possible 600 patients per day.

Cross border patients - there is now more co-operation between the health boards and it is hoped that we will have an update at the July meeting.

8. AOB

Next meeting: Tuesday 7th July 2015 – Out of Hours and 111
Care UK and Southwest Ambulance Service.