

**Forest of Dean Health Forum  
West Dean Centre, Bream  
Tuesday 3rd September 2019 - 7.00-9.00pm**

**Minutes**

Present:

Albert Weager - Chair

Linda Vaughan - Secretary

Doug Battersby - Public

Caroline Smith - CCG

Mary Thurston - Friends LDH

Chrissie Johnson - Public

Sylvia Francis - West Dean PC

Sally Taylor - Great Oaks Hospice

Maddy McLaughlin - Charlies

Jim Spiers - Treasurer

Hilary Bowen - Public

Peggy Jordan - Public

Di Martin - FODDC

Sam Pearce - Sister Dilke Hospital

Mary Matthews - Bream Ladies

Claire Smeeth - Crossroads Care

Anne Morris - Macmillan

Jo Sobey - Maggies

**Welcome and Introductions.**

**Speakers from:**

Great Oaks Dean Forest Hospice

Charlies Cancer Support and Therapies

Maggie's outreach Cancer Support

MacMillan Engagement Lead - Glos and Swindon

Maddy McLaughlin began by explaining that she became involved with Maggie's in 2015 when she was a "service user" and saw Maggie's near to the Oncology Unit at Cheltenham. She discovered that they offered a lot of support and ran a "Feel Better Course" to help people with the emotional and physical impact of cancer and a Talking Heads Workshop to deal with the practicalities and emotional impact of hair loss. They have an outreach at the Main Place in Coleford. Maggie's is funded by donors and gifts in wills and there is local fundraising for the Coleford branch.

Jo Sobey is a volunteer for Maggie's in Coleford and she explained that the ethos is to live life to the full. There are 20 centres nationally but because it is such a long way from the Forest to Cheltenham the Coleford outreach was started with drop in sessions on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month from 9.30am to 4.30pm. Activities include: Nordic Walking, Art, Fitness, Relaxation, Yoga, Benefits advice. Other courses are available on request.

**Website is [www.maggiescentres.org](http://www.maggiescentres.org)**

Charlies started in 2015 in Gloucester where there is a purpose built centre for people affected by cancer. The emphasis is on holistic therapies in a non-medical environment to help people feel better and cope better with having cancer. Therapies include massage, Reiki, head massage, reflexology, manicures, meditation, knitting etc. They have an outreach at the Belfry in Littledean on the last Friday of the month and at the Community Centre in Lydney on the second Monday of the month.

Contact: **Maddy on 07773200145 [charliesintheforest@gmail.com](mailto:charliesintheforest@gmail.com)**

**[www.charlies.org.uk](http://www.charlies.org.uk)**

Sally Taylor explained that Great Oaks in Coleford is a day centre for people with life limiting illnesses such as cancer, motor neurone disease, Parkinsons, MS etc and the

aim is to put some normality back into their lives both for the person with the illness and their carers and families.

Hospice means “rest” and Great Oaks provides a welcoming, safe and reassuring place to be. There are friendship groups, craft, speakers, coffee mornings, lunches, and complementary therapies. There is a family support team for bereavement or when time is short. Great Oaks runs a Hospice at Home service for people who want to be at home in the final days and the nurses have a wealth of experience in caring for the terminally ill and their families.

**www.great-oaks.org.uk Tel: 01594 811910**

Anne Morris explained how the Macmillan team supports these three services and others and can provide additional help for families who are in need. Anne has the role of finding out what is needed close to home and leads a steering group who meet quarterly to look at support in the Forest of Dean. The steering group works with FVAF, Forest of Dean Council, Community Wellbeing Service, Community transport. There is a hub in the Atrium of Gloucester Hospital.

**The Macmillan Support Line is 0808 808 00 00 Monday to Friday.**

All of the above organisations rely on donations and will ensure that any money raised will be used for Forest of Dean residents.

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### **Apologies:**

John Simister, Mel Preston, Jackie Jenkins, Ingrid Barker, Paul Roberts, Ruth Wadley

1. Matters Arising from minutes of July 2019 - Nil
2. Updates, Reports and correspondence
  - Dementia Action Alliance Celebration Event Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September at Berry Hill Rugby Club. The Forum will be represented at this event.
  - “Fit for the future” engagement about the future of community urgent care and specialist hospital services.

Caroline Smith explained that there is currently engagement looking at the way services could be organised in our Acute hospitals in the future. The aim is to inform future planning so that we have centres of excellence for interventions and anomalies will be reduced in the way that care is provided in Gloucester and Cheltenham. The engagement is looking at urgent care and emergency care as well as specialist care and primary care.

Caroline also talked about helping with the confusion over the appropriate use of services such as NHS 111 and the urgent care centres. The Urgent Treatment Centre model is “morphing” but there will be provision in the new hospital. It is clear that the Rapid Response Teams are reducing the number of admissions and 90% of services are provided in Primary Care.

The new hospital in Cinderford is due to open in 2022 and the existing community hospitals will continue until then. It is not known yet what will happen to the Dilke

and Lydney but there is strict criteria about the way they are disposed of and the use of the money accrued. The money will stay in Gloucestershire and the community needs and interest will be taken into account.

The transport problems cannot be funded from the health budget but the CCG will work with providers to try to influence their decisions. The new Stagecoach West timetable is causing some concern but please note that Dial-a-Ride are bringing in extra buses and a timetable is available.

There is a network of Patient Participation Groups forming and the Integrated Locality Partnership is also evolving.

For further information and to give your views on One Gloucestershire “Fit for the Future” engagement pick up a booklet or go to **[www.onegloucestershire.net](http://www.onegloucestershire.net)**

For Fit for the Future “A New Hospital for The Forest of Dean” pick up a booklet or go to

**[www.fodhealth.nhs.uk](http://www.fodhealth.nhs.uk)**

**3. Treasurers Report** - balance of £861.14

#### **4. Chair’s report**

##### Chair’s Report to Forest of Dean Health Forum 030919

a) July 9<sup>th</sup> PLACE event at Hatherley Manor, with Secretary.

Speakers were Martin McShane Optimum International. (Chief Medical Officer)

Gina Davy Leeds CCG, Sarah Scott GCC Glos. Director Public Health and Chris Roche IT specialist GCC.

Main themes of the day;

Value based integrated care, holistic, multifaceted, personalised planning by using data analytics around multi discipline teams.

There were workshop, locality discussions around these themes.

b) July 15<sup>th</sup> PPGs’ meeting at Bells.

Attended by some PPG reps. And Caroline Smith. Caroline thought a combined PPG might be of some value.

c) July 17<sup>th</sup> ILP at [GreatGrat](#) Oaks.

Presentation by Andrew Hughes on Estates. A business plan for Coleford should be in place by the end of the year.

Some discussion on PLACE and any immediate action(s) the ILP could prompt.

Flu vaccination take up by pregnant women.

d) August 16<sup>th</sup> County PPGS' meeting Churchdown. (pop in visit) to hear about NHS Long Term Plan and participate in workshop discussions. [Led by Roger McDermott](#)

2025 was the focus

Albert Weager Chair 030919

NB:

ILP - Integrated Locality Partnership

PPG - Patient Participation Groups

CCG - Clinical Commissioning Group

**5. Future meetings:** AGM - 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019

**6. AOB**