

# ANDOVER & DISTRICT OLDER PEOPLE'S FORUM

**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2018  
AT 2.15 PM IN THE RENDEZ VOUS, UNION STREET, ANDOVER**

**Present :** J Kay, B Kay, M Antrobus, B Skinner, H Watkins, W Carson, Jean Ray, Jacquie Wilson, Debs Blackery, Lila Gilbert, Judy Taylor, April Pearce, Jill Sacree, Debbie Smith, Mike Taylor, Maggie Bowling, Chris Bowling, Luigi Gregori, Marion Kerley, Wendy Rayner, Peter Rayner, Fred North, Wendy North

**In Attendance :** Liz Murray, Jan Howard

**Jenny Kay, Chairman welcomed members and guests**

- 1. Apologies :** Kevin and Else Redpath, Jennifer Goodison, Anne Harrison, Rita Skinner, K Gray, J Msonthi, Cllr S Hawke, L Rice, R Hamilton, Gwen Dance
- 2. Minutes of July 2018 meeting :** proposed as a correct record by P Rayner. All agreed.
- 3. Matters arising**

### **3.1 Follow Up to Housing Seminar and meeting with Kit Malthouse Minister of State for Housing, Communities and Planning**

Mollie Antrobus informed members that after the successful seminar in July when they had suggested that we contact our MP Kit Malthouse who was recently appointed as Housing Minister, a letter had been written to him and he had suggested a meeting in his office. A small group had indicated their interest (H Watkins, P Rayner, W Rayner and M Antrobus as Executive Committee members and B Skinner and J Msonthi who had responded positively and quickly when places were offered to members).

This small group had met and agreed questions to be put to the minister prior to the actual meeting – all based on our original letter to him. The meeting took place on 19<sup>th</sup> October and those present shared their thoughts on this with members.

It was generally felt to be a positive and well informed response to the issues we raised and while based on government policy – with which we all do not

necessarily agree- we felt that he had listened and understood what we were saying and intended to do his best to address a situation which was the result of successive governments (and political parties) not building enough houses for the past 20-30 years.

A full report of the meeting will be circulated to members.

A final message to all members – do respond to local consultations on the Local Plan and make sure TVBC is aware that more housing for older people and lifetime homes are badly needed and that this is specified in the Local Plan – rather than just numbers of houses to be built. The local target of 10% Lifetime homes in large developments is not high enough – ideally we would like 100% but certainly more than 10.

#### **4. Finance Report**

Fred North talked to his finance report which related to the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018. From an opening balance of £3,815.75 in total the position to 9<sup>th</sup> October showed a closing balance of £3,757.71 after costs of AGM presentations, advertisements and secretarial costs had been deducted. Income included £248.85 which comprised fundraising and raffles by M Kerley amounting to £196 plus donations towards the cost of refreshments amounting to £52.85. The chairman thanked Fred for his report showing the Forum to be in a positive financial position.

#### **5. Social Care Report : R Hamilton**

In Rosemary's absence, Mollie Antrobus shared a brief report from her with members, the contents of which are listed below:

- Urgent Care Centre: no further news on this from the Clinical Commissioning Group. Equally no further news on the Transforming Care initiative.
- The adverse inspection report on the Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is being challenged by the Trust for many inaccuracies and the Chairman and Chief Executive have visited CQC for this. Many of the areas highlighted were due to having to use old buildings and changes have already been made to meet requirements. The Single Sex ward requirements for Andover Day Surgery have led to male only or female only operating lists and there have never been any complaints about the situation as most patients do not have to undress or wear a gown.
- South Today TV report on a scalded patient mentioned as it did not give all the facts. It had been fully investigated and relatives did not want the patient moved and were more than happy with all the staff and ward
- The Trust has over 300 staff vacancies – on a par with Frimley Park and Southampton
- A third of places on the latest nursing course were empty due to removal of the financial bursary together with the fact that many potential students are not 18 but more mature with families. They need to attend nearly 2000 hours

of practical training in different hospitals and settings with short notice of rotas leads to inability to fund themselves by getting a part time job and being able to study.

- Concerns at loss of many EU staff from doctors, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, nurses and others due to Brexit uncertainty. This is also affecting Care Homes and Care Agencies.
- Countess of Brecknock Hospice being extended quite rapidly now and fundraising going well for a Winchester Hospice
- Rosemary has contacted the Clinical Commissioning Group about health information events in Eastleigh in the hopes of something similar in Andover
- NHS to receive £145m in emergency funding to help it cope with winter pressures – Rosemary comments that they have these pressures throughout the year not just winter time.
- Hitting the Cold Spots service from Hampshire County Council aims to help older people keep warm this winter and can provide advice over the phone or by e-mail on:
  - a. Heating systems, including where they are broken
  - b. Insulation
  - c. Energy bill worries including fuel debt
  - d. The Warm Home Discount (£140 off your electricity bill, available autumn time only)
  - e. Tariff switchingContact them by:  
Freephone 0800 804 8601 or  
Email at [staywarm@environmentcentre.com](mailto:staywarm@environmentcentre.com)
- Care Quality Commission Review of how local health and social care systems work together was published in June 2018 and while highlighting many areas of good practice found that older people's experiences vary according to where in the county they live and a consequent lack of consistency. Admission to and discharge from the larger hospitals also varied in times of high pressure. There was a need for better joint working with the independent sector and older people themselves as well as having a comprehensive health and social care workforce strategy and working in partnership with financial, housing and transport strategies.

## 6. 2.45pm : Refreshments

7. **'I Can' therapy** : The Chairman introduced Liz Murray from Valley Leisure and her colleague Jan Howard a physiotherapist who shared a slide presentation on the work of the 'I Can' Centre based at Salto's Gym at Charlton. It costs £35 for the initial assessment by the physiotherapist then £5 per attendance for a programme designed for individual needs.

8. **'Scamnesty'** : M Antrobus shared details of an initiative by the Police and Crime Commissioner Michael Lane to encourage people to report scams and to provide advice to help local people avoid becoming victims of fraud. Hampshire Constabulary receives over 700 reports of fraud or attempted fraud each month. Many of these are targeting older people or vulnerable members of the community, and the consequences can be extremely damaging both financially and emotionally for the individual.

Safer Information Packs and questionnaires are available on line at [www.Hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/scamnesty](http://www.Hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/scamnesty) or from Citizen's Advice or by visiting a roadshow at Tescoes, Andover on 26<sup>th</sup> October.

POST MEETING NOTE : APOLOGIES TO MEMBERS WHO DID GO TO TESCOES ON THE ABOVE DATE AS IT WOULD APPEAR WE WERE NOT NOTIFIED OF THE CANCELLATION OF THIS EVENT.

## 9. Any Other Business from Members

- 9.1 : **Social event** : Wendy Rayner suggested we hold a social event such as a Spring Fair similar to the 'Full of Life' information events we had held in the past. The idea was applauded but concern raised about timing and organising this. A small working group would be needed. Volunteers welcome. To be discussed at the next Executive Team meeting.

- 9.2 **Report back on Meeting with Terry Bishop at Unity** : At the previous Executive Committee meeting a small working group had been formed comprising Jenny and Brian Kay and Wilson Carson to review an offer from Unity about website provision and information sharing. We already promote our meetings in their e news. Jenny and Brian Kay reported back on a meeting to discuss the provision of a web-site for Andover and District Older People's Forum. Unity could do this for us at a cost or we could use Hugo Fox who would set up the website free of charge if someone within the Forum would take on the Webmaster role to keep the web-site up-to-date and monitor the legality of the information.

**This will be discussed again at the December meeting of the Executive.**

## 9.3 New Age Bowls

Members were invited to come and join others on a Tuesday from 1.30pm – 3pm at the YMCA, Andover for a game of bowls and a cup of tea . More details from 01264 310140 or email [andover@ymca.fg.org](mailto:andover@ymca.fg.org)

#### **9.4 Cardea – Hoarding and Decluttering Service**

Cardea is a service within what was Test Valley Community Services and is now called UNITY. One element of their many services is to work with individuals and agencies to help people gain control and improve their home environment in a supportive and non-judgemental way by working with them to reduce clutter in their home.

It may be just one room or the whole house which has become a worry to them and may be impacting on their neighbours. It helps them to maintain independence and reduces risk and isolation.

All of Cardea's services are well audited and monitored.

Contact the Cardea Team at 01264 523490.

#### **9.5 Scam Alert from Hampshire Trading Standards**

L Rice had shared the above with the Chairman which relates to cold callers at the door or on the telephone offering home insulation or home insulation checks and claim that a resident's current cavity wall insulation or roof insulation does not meet current standards laid down by Government. These claims are untrue.

#### **9.6. Date and Time of next Meeting: 31st January 2019 at the Rendezvous at 2.15pm**