



**CHESHIRE LOCAL OPTOMETRIC COMMITTEE MEETING
6th DECEMBER 2018
THE WHITE BEAR, MIDDLEWICH AT 7.00PM**

Present

Lyndon Taylor, Chairman, Fionnuala Stott, Phil Cooke, Nigel Oldbury, Amy Thompson, Chris Houghton, Jill Umpleby, John Blaney

In Attendance

Sandie McBennett – Administrator

Guests

Rupesh Bagdai – LEHN Chair

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Lyndon Taylor opened the meeting and welcomed all to the meeting.

Resolved: That apologies received from Gurj Bhamra, Harinder Notay, Mark Simpson and Jane Smellie be accepted.

2. Conflicts of Interest

The Secretary, Fionnuala Stott requested all Committee Members to note any conflicts or pecuniary interests in items on the agenda at the beginning of each meeting. A Conflict of Interest Form should be completed by each member.

Action: FS/SMcB to circulate the Conflicts of Interest form.

Action: All to complete and return to SMcB.

Lyndon Taylor wished to note a conflict of interest in item 13. Diabetic Screening on the agenda.

3. Minutes of the last Meeting held on 19th September 2018

Resolved: That the minutes of the 19th September 2018 meeting be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

FS confirmed a Part II OSCE for Glaucoma and MECS would be held on 20th January 2019 at Optegra, Manchester. The cost would be £125 for each module. The Committee were asked for their agreement to cover the costs of the courses for Cheshire practicing optometrists.

Resolved: That the Committee agreed to fund attendance of the Part II OSCE for Glaucoma and MECS for optometrists practicing in Cheshire.

Action: SMcB to circulate the OSCE information to all on the database and to collate refund requests from those attending.

5. Treasurer's Report

PC confirmed a balance of £70,800 was currently held with some outgoings still to be paid. At the 2018 AGM it was agreed to reduce the levy from 1.5% to 1.25%. The reduced rate was late to commence after some administrative problems instigating the change; therefore, the levy was dropped to 1%. PC had found a discrepancy in the collections; Capita confirmed the levy had only been dropped on 29th October 2018. The collected levy was reported to the LOC as an amount, not as a percentage.

Action: All Committee practice owners to review levy payments from January 2018 and report back to PC what percentages were paid in each month.

6. Chairman's Report

LT reported he had attended a meeting with Rupesh, Darmesh and representatives of other LOC areas to collect

information for the LEHN. Darmesh would send a questionnaire for completion by optical practices to give information on capacity and demand; the responses would be written into a plan for Primary Care providers to see patients from the extensive lists of delayed follow up.

The Chairman welcomed Dr Mark Dickinson, Head of Medicines Management for South and East Cheshire and Vale Royal CCGs. LT had circulated the latest document outlining Dry Eye Guidance. The LOC was asked to review the Primary Care category list to proof read, comment and report back any findings to Dr Dickinson.

Action: All to review the guidance and forward edits and comments to LT by 9th January 2019.

Action: LT to draft a referral letter.

7. Secretary's Report

FS reported on attendance at the NOC.

8. PECS Report

The PECS Company was now much larger than originally expected; the PECS that had merged were positive about the benefits of merging, the overarching governance and procedural guidance was of great benefit as was the economy of scale in bidding. The PECS Board was presently the same although it would change in the future and be representational.

9. East Cheshire

AT reported she and Julia Maiden had attended a meeting with Sally Williams regarding the GRR Service. Activity had dropped but they were still happy to continue the service. JM would forward details to AT on a Post Cataract Service that PECS had recently commissioned. A further meeting would be held in February/March.

10. Central Cheshire (VR&S)

LT had no new information to report.

11. Western Cheshire

LT reported they were very keen to have a MECS Service but had now have moved the commissioning over to the CoCH; the CoCH had two preferred bidders on the service, neither from Primary Care optometry. LT had noted this was not what had been agreed.

Action: LT to speak with Simon.

12. Learning Disabilities Service

JS would attend a meeting on 6th December: Cheshire and Merseyside Physical Health Good Practice Showcase.

Action: JS to report at the next meeting.

13. Diabetic Screening

LT reported he would retire from the service on 1st April 2019.

It was thought that East Cheshire Trust would propose a reduced fee in 2019 from to £17 to a suggested £16/16.50 which would be for the LOC to debate. Other services were being provided in the region of £14; parity across the services may be requested. An EQA visit for Cheshire was expected in 2019, the commission process would likely begin in service in January 2020. The LOC would be notified of the negotiation process before April, LT, FS and PC would not be involved in the negotiation process as they worked in the service. It was agreed AT and NO would lead for the LOC.

Resolved: It was agreed Amy and/or Nigel would negotiate for the LOC.

LT reported the IT support for the service had been given by himself to date; the Committee considered continuing the IT support from LT after he had retired from the service. The Committee would consider the potential problem over the coming months although the general thought was that any cost should be met by the practice.

14. CET Update

JU reported on the recent CET events; the Leighton Event had been facilitated by the LOC for the CET points and advertised to the profession, however it was delivered by Leighton. In the future it was agreed the LOC would apply for points and organise administration for LOC events only. 27 Optoms booked onto the event, only 12 attended.

The event at Wilmslow Hospital in October was well attended by 26 Optoms.

The November CET event at The Cottons was also well received, 70 booked a place, 45 attended. The feedback was very positive.

JU suggested a CL point event be organised with Josie Barlow in the new year when the new CET cycle begins.

LT would lead a Peer Discussion in February with Trevor Warburton.

Other suggestions for CET events included Myopia Control and Dry Eye.

15. NOC Report

FS reported on her attendance to the NOC with PC. FS had attended the Chairs meeting on behalf of LT.

LOCSU reported a new Non-Executive Chairman, Mike Fegan had been appointed, a new logo had been revealed and the new website had been launched. LOCSU would send out a consultation on a new strategy in the new year. Sedgedigm and Optomanager launched their new platform called "Healthy" as their new flagship brand. FS had attended a presentation on Integrated Platforms which had evolved from the previously reported STPs and also workshops on LOC Governance and Pathways Designs aimed at getting new pathways in place. PC attended the workshop on Effective Communication in LOCs suggesting LOCs to have a Communications Officer/PR Rep.

Action: Lyndon to speak to his daughter on the effectiveness of websites and social media and report to the committee.

FS also attended a presentation from NHS England where the priority programme for Managers, detailing electronic GOS, connectivity, LD, PPV, GOS 4 approvals and an Optical Handbook.

16. Outstanding Cat/GRR Payments

The outstanding payments were discussed among the Committee. Rupesh Bagdai suggested the LOC seek advice from LOCSU on the legal issue as no contract was in place at the time.

Action: LT to contact Steve Evans of Central Cheshire CCG.

17. Central Optical fund

a) To consider the request for voluntary levy

b) Receive nominations for a representative

Director for the North West

Deferred until the next meeting.

18. LEHN Update

19. AGM

a) To set a date for the 2019 AGM

The AGM would be held on 27th March 2019. JU would arrange a CET presentation for the evening.

b) To discuss the election process.

20. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Cheshire LOC would be held at The White Bear, Middlewich on: -

Tuesday 5th February 2018