



**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**The Crooked Chimney, Welwyn Garden City AL8 7XE**

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### **Present:**

Jane Bunker (Chair) (JB)	Peter Chapman (PC)	Kavita Kathuria (KK)
Hansil Shah Vice Chair (HS)	Wendy d'E Vallancey (WdEV)	Dawn Doe (Minute Taker) (DD)
Sumila Kasaven Vice Chair (SK)	Anita Jones (AJ)	Steve Roberts (IT) (SR)
Eileen Gay (Treasurer) (EG)	Sai Karan Malik (SKM)	Binal Patel (LOCSU Optical Lead)
	Daniel Harris (DH)	David Fleming

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Mary Bramley, Deepali Modha, Amnish Patel, Katie Patel, Richard Stokes, Pargat Thethy, and Sally Tucker

### **2. Approve Minutes from 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

The minutes were approved. EG could not remember if something about the NHS E-mail addresses was mentioned.

### **3. Matters Arising**

#### Update on CHEC within Herts Valleys

It was mentioned that there was an issue with GP practices returning/responding to Patient Reports stating that they no longer deal with referrals. DH stated that they used to put in capitals "This is not a Referral".

#### Needs Analysis

EG asked if she had missed the deadline for the Needs Analysis. JB explained that they tried to have an extra meeting in December to discuss the analysis and that 4 responses had been received. After a few moments of debating about the best time to hold a meeting for the Needs Analysis, it was agreed that it should be prior to the AGM, EG said she was away from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> March. Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February was set for the Needs Analysis meeting. The Needs Analysis forms are to be sent out again.

The date for the next Committee Meeting and AGM was agreed as 30<sup>th</sup> March with the venue being the Crooked Chimney. JB suggested that perhaps a note should be added to the invite as to whether a Public House as the venue was an issue.

WdEV joined the meeting at 1845 and HS arrived shortly after at 1855

### **4. Update from CHEC Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

JB attended this event and felt it was a very good evening and was impressed. JB will send her notes so that they can be added as an attachment to the Minutes.

JB, DH and AJ answered various questions about topics on fees, number of patients seen and procedures that took place, (JB is awaiting the figures for the latter) PC asked if there was an equivalent in E&NH. A question was asked about referrals to Stoke Mandeville in Aylesbury,

Buckinghamshire, which is an option for patients with Herts Valleys postcodes, it was mentioned that CHEC were calling these referrals back to themselves. A discussion about whether it was still possible to refer directly to the Trusts if that was the patient's choice. JB mentioned that the majority of complaints CHEC received were arising from the fact that there was a change of provider. PC suggested putting a note in the Newsletter, but it was decided that it would be best to confirm with trusts first via Janice Ostler for Moorfields at Potters Bar and for Luton & Dunstable.

## 5. WOPEC Glaucoma Assessments

We have had a couple of requests/queries about if these are available. JB asked DH if it would be possible to do via Specsavers, but DH said it was not open to all. It was decided that the LOC could fund these as there are Lead Assessors in the area. A request for interest could be put into the Newsletter.

## 6. Treasurer's Report

EG stated that the balance was still too high and that she would try to reduce the Levy further. EG requested that any outstanding expenses to be sent in before the end of January. It was mentioned that funding the WOPEC evenings could help to reduce the balance.

## 7. Newsletter Items

Some items suggested for the Newsletter were:-

Herts Sensory Loss / Sensory Service

The CET Event in February

The AGM

The Cataract Referral prescription details

WOPEC Interest

AJ was asked if she could write a short Blogg like piece about being CHEC accredited and what it entails. AJ said she was not sure about this as her experience with regards to allotting time slots for CHEC patients was not good, she often had a lot gaps with no patients and there was no reimbursement for this. AJ and DH discussed that they never saw any patients that they had referred but had seen each other's patients.

KK was asked if she could do a short piece about the presentation she was involved with at the February CET event.

It was decided that in principle SR could do the Newsletter should PT no longer wish to carry on. It was also agreed that any items should be sent as soon as possible.

**Action** – JB to liaise with Pargat to see if he still wishes to continue to do the Newsletter.

## 8. Website Update

SR said that the website was organic and continues to be updated. He thanked all for sending information for uploading. There will be a new template launched by LOCSU soon. Later in the meeting it was questioned whether there should be a professional only area separate to the public area SB said that this depended on the template and support of LOCSU internet service.

## 9. Any Other Business

West Essex Minor Eye Conditions Service – JB stated this has been set up on the border and has now been live since November. During November and December they saw 43 people, 8 practices. Patients can be referred by self, GP and the Trust. It is open to those on the boundary. WdEV said

that she can only refer patients if their GP was in West Essex. The accreditation is better than CHEC.

Dry Eye Document – JB said she would not cover this topic - she had been approached by E&NHerts PMO Team to review a treatment pathway

Talk on NOC – SK and JB attended this event.

Brief Talk on Leadership Programme – SK and HS to step into DH shoes and become joint Vice Chairs. LOCSU will help fund SK to complete Leadership Programme which starts in March and will take 4 months. SK will give updates on this at the meetings. The online induction is 27<sup>th</sup> January. DH said the LOCSU website was very useful and that a group discussion forum would be useful.

HS said that their MECs group have a WhatsApp group set up which might be good for us to do.

Ophthalmology Clinical Pathways Update – there have been numerous meetings about this at a venue on Hemel Hempstead. It was for all of the STP area so included both Hertfordshire and West Essex. All the eye diseases were split into various sections such as Paediatrics, Urgent Eye and so on. Representatives were there from all hospitals in the area, together with Orthoptists, Optometrists, LOCs and managers. PAH are pro setting up a collaboration between Optometrists and hospital Clinicians. The main issue inhibiting progress for better collaboration was the lack of availability of nhs.net email addresses which came up at every meeting. Also, there was ignorance as to what GOS covered and lack of funding for alternative schemes going forward.

Practice Database – All were asked if they would contact fellow practices and using a questionnaire template that SK has created obtain details for a database. It was asked if this could be added as item in the Newsletter, but it was felt that there would not be sufficient response.

JB gave a presentation and short speech of thanks to Daniel and Wendy for all their hard work over the years that they had served on the Committee

David Fleming was invited to attend future meetings.

## **10. Date of Next Meeting**

30<sup>th</sup> March 2020, venue to be confirmed as Crooked Chimney

Meeting closed at 2026