

MINUTES
Of
A Meeting of New Romney Town Council's
Health & Wellbeing Committee
Held in the Assembly Rooms, New Romney
on Tuesday 20th February 2024
Commencing at 10.00am

PRESENT: Councillors K Terry, J Hiscock, J Davies, P Coe, P Thomas
NHS Representatives: 6
Other invited representatives: 0
Member of the public: 1

In the Chair: Councillor P Thomas

In Attendance: Town Clerk - Mrs C Newcombe

The business of the meeting commenced @10.00AM

541/2023-24 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and noted, as follows:

Councillor Rivers - who was unwell
Councillor Rev Cn McLachlan - for personal reasons

NB: Further apologies had been received from 1 NHS representative in respect of late arrival.

542/2023-24 **DISPENSATION TO PARTICIPATE**

No new requests for Dispensation to Participate had been processed by the Town Clerk.

543/2023-24 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

544/2023-24 **MINUTES**

The Chairman presented the minutes of the Health & Wellbeing Committee meeting held on 21st November 2023, which were duly received and noted and it was:

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Coe
SECONDED BY: Councillor Hiscock

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Health & Wellbeing Committee meeting held on 21st November 2023 be hereby approved as a true and correct record.

545/2023-24 NEW ROMNEY NHS PROVISION

It was reported that there have been no formal discussions regarding future needs for a Romney Marsh health hub but that there have been talks with the Community Clinic in Station Road as there is some availability for services. However, it was explained that there is an extremely high service charge at this site and this makes its use financially unviable, albeit that discussion is on-going.

546/2023-24 LOCAL HEALTH & WELLBEING ISSUES

Output notes from a recent meeting of the Marsh PCN Integrated Care Board were received and noted.

It was noted that screening rates on Romney Marsh were quite poor and that the potential for bringing the screening bus to Romney Marsh was being investigated since, currently, the closest site was in Hythe. The difficulty would be locating a suitable electricity supply (3 phase and neutral); information was currently awaited from UKPN to identify any potential local sites for the screening bus.

It was reported that at a recent site meeting regarding the new Maude Community Centre, the question had been put to the contractor as to whether they could install an external 3 phase & neutral supply to accommodate the screening bus in the future and this would be explored. It was agreed that it was important to explore potential sites to bring the screening bus to Romney Marsh in order to help improve Romney Marsh screening rates but acknowledged that it was just as important to promote awareness.

It was reported that work had been going on with the Pilgrim's Hospice, looking at care planning and end of life planning. It had originally been a pilot project involving 70 patients over 75yrs and the work of the project involved screening patients to help them remain in their own homes for longer. It was added that funding had now been secured to continue this project, so this work would now be on-going.

An update was provided regarding transport and access issues; it was reported that the Community Hub had been involved in exploring the potential to host and manage a Romney Marsh transport system. It had originally explored a dial-a-ride system to help local people access wider health services / hospital appointments but had now developed such that the potential of replacing the occasional bus service across the Romney Marsh was also being explored. The transport would be in the form of a mini-bus with disabled access if the transport system was realised. Currently three options were being explored but this would likely be narrowed down to two options.

547/2023-24 **INTEGRATED CARE BOARD ACTIVITY**

It was recognised that the output meeting notes from the recent Marsh PCN Integrated Care Board meeting demonstrated just how much is going on in terms of local health provision and suggested that New Romney Town Council could track the output meeting notes of the ICB so that it could consider what the Council can do to support this work and to encourage other Romney Marsh Councils to lend their support.

548/2023-24 **MEETING DATES 2024-25**

@10.38AM one further NHS representative arrived and joined the meeting, having previously conveyed apologies for late arrival.

Having duly considered the requirement to set meeting dates for the forthcoming civic year, it was:

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Thomas

SECONDED BY: Councillor Terry

RECOMMENDED UNANIMOUSLY – that the NRTC Health & Wellbeing Committee meeting dates for the 2024-25 civic year, be set as below:

Tuesday 21st May 2024 @10.00am

Tuesday 3rd September 2024 @10.00am

Tuesday 19th November 2024 @10.00am

Tuesday 11th February 2025 @10.00am

549/2023-24 **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

Not applicable.

550/2023-24 **CONCLUSION OF PRIVATE SESSION**

Not applicable.

The Chairman thanked those present for their attendance and the meeting concluded **@10.40AM.**

NB: All documents referred to herein are available for perusal on request, except for those documents of a sensitive / legal nature discussed in private session, including documents relating to staff matters which remain Private and Confidential in accordance with Data Protection legislation.

Minutes prepared by the Town Clerk

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