

Minutes of the Hospital Liaison Group Meeting
Held on Tuesday 3rd December 2012 (7pm to 9pm) in the Lecture Theatre Sussex House
Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton

Present:

Cllr Warren Morgan (Chair)
Mrs Jackie Nowell (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Gill Mitchell

11 local residents.

Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals:

Anna Barnes, 3Ts Associate Director for Governance
Richard Beard, 3Ts Head of Engagement & Communications
Bridget McGee, Capital Projects Manager

Turner and Townsend

Johanna Wallwork

Kiers

Kevin Barden

Apologies:

Simon Henderson- Head of Cancer Environments (Macmillan)
Karen Hicks- Project Leader-3Ts (Laing O Rourke)
Duane Passman, Director of 3Ts (BSUH)

1. **Welcome**

1.1 **Apologies**

Cllr Morgan welcomed everyone to the meeting. Jackie nominated him to be Chair of the group, following Cllr Turton's resignation (as reported in the notes from 2nd October). This nomination was accepted and Cllr Warren Morgan was elected Chair of the HLG.

2. **Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting (2nd October) were agreed.

3. **Matters Arising**

3.1 **3Ts approval**

Jackie asked when the scheme was likely to be approved. Anna agreed to cover this under item 4.

4. **General update on 3Ts development**

Anna gave the meeting an update on the approvals process:

As per the last meeting the Treasury was still scrutinising the OBC for the main scheme which meant that BSUH was answering queries as required. The approval process for the Decant programme was slightly different as this could be agreed internally with the Strategic Health Authority as it was under their financial approvals limit. Anna added that this process was expected to be concluded by the end of 2012. More positively, Anna was able to update the group the refurbishment of St Mary's Hall School (SMHS) had been approved the previous week.

With reference to the main scheme Anna explained that the majority of the concerns were still around affordability. It was important for BSHU to demonstrate that it was a robust, financially sound organisation which was capable of executing such a major development. Anna continued that, whilst demand for services was growing, the ongoing level of resources had effectively been capped since the OBC was first approved by the SHA in 2009. BSUH was not alone in this regard as many trusts were facing a similar situation. Therefore the Trust was expected to make major and sustainable efficiencies across the organisation to meet rising demand within available resources. The approvals process was partly dependent on BSUH demonstrating that these efficiencies were being implemented.

Cllr Mitchell commented that she hoped the OBC approval would not be rescinded in the light of these financial pressures as the scheme was still very much needed. Anna agreed saying the case was still as strong but it was a matter of observing due process. Anna hoped to have more concrete news in the New Year.

4.1 Questions from HLG members:

Cllr Morgan thanked Anna for the update.

5. Refurbishment of St. Mary's Hall School

Cllr Morgan introduced Johanna Wallwork from Turner and Townsend and Kevin Barden from Kiers who are managing the refurbishment of SMHS. Johanna's slides¹ outlined the programme of works, logistics such as the flow of traffic, the timescales for the development and other key activities.

5.1 Project Management arrangements

Kevin gave information concerning the programme of refurbishment including his liaison with the Conservation officer, with Brighton College and with the swimming pool users. He also described in further detail how the traffic flow to the junior school would be improved through widening the access route. (Johanna added that deliveries would not be permitted during school drop off and collection times). Kevin's key message was that this was mainly an internal refurbishment, rather than demolition and rebuild, so that noise and dust would be minimal compared to a major construction project such as 3Ts. The programme was due for completion by August 2013.

Anna asked Kevin and Johanna to provide details of their site manager in case of any problems out of office hours. This is as follows: Steve Turner on 07855 781056. Johanna added that other relevant contact details will be displayed at the entrances to the site at all times.

5.2 Questions from HLG members

How many vehicles will be accessing the site on a daily basis?

Kevin said that it was difficult to say definitively, but that he anticipated approximately 2-3 a day in the next few weeks, rising to circa 10 at the peak of the programme. On the whole these would be smaller transit-type vans as well as skips, rather than larger articulated vehicles. He added that it would be necessary to widen the main site entrances adjacent to Eastern rd (and Elliot House in particular) to make access easier. However this would be a temporary measure as the conservation officer would require the existing boundary wall to be made good at the end of the programme. Two local residents were concerned as their property was adjacent to Elliot House. However they were reassured that this level of traffic was not excessive when compared to the anticipated level of construction traffic for 3Ts. They also asked for more detail concerning the traffic flow on

¹<http://www.bsuh.nhs.uk/EasysiteWeb/getresource.axd?AssetID=474832&type=full&servicetype=Attachment>

Eastern Road. Richard explained that traffic would exit over Wilson Avenue (North) rather than back into the City along Eastern Road (West).

Cllr Morgan asked that regular updates regarding the scheme would be made available on the web site and on the site notice board. This was agreed.

Action: Turner and Townsend and Kiers.

When is the start date for the scheme?

Johanna replied that this was 17th December

Cllr Morgan thanked Johanna and Kevin for the presentation.

6. 3rs Cardiac Theatre

Cllr Morgan introduced Bridget McGee from BSUH to HLG. Bridget gave a verbal update which built on the information share at the last HLG meeting in October. She also described the rationale for the 3rd cardiac theatre which was a hybrid combined cath lab and theatre. This would create a more flexible facility suitable for both cardiology and cardiac surgery, which would enable patients currently being treated in London to be treated locally.² Some key points were as follows:

- The project was on programme, despite some difficulties with the weather (specifically high winds) over the previous weekend.
- The weekend closures of the North Service Road had mostly taken place (see above). 4 had occurred with 5 more to go. The closure had been limited to Saturdays and had not been required on Sundays.
- Bridget added that these closures had been mainly without incident (although staff had found them inconvenient). She explained that the site was quite tight, which had necessitated building the hybrid theatre within an area which was a bridge over the road. This also meant that some of the ward layouts would need to change. However, as this was principally internal works noise and dust would be minimal.

6.1 Questions from HLG members

Why were the bollards not put up to prevent 2 way traffic last weekend?

Bridget replied that she would look into this as the bollards were supposed to be raised after the diversions had been finished. She asked the questioner to ring the project manager directly if this happened again.

Will this type of diversion be needed for the main scheme too?

Bridget replied that 3Ts would be concentrated to the South of the service road so this would not be required for the main scheme, as far as she was aware.

Cllr Morgan thanked Bridget for this update.

7. Update on the Sussex Macmillan Cancer Centre

Anna said that further detail would be provided at the next meeting when the tender would have been let. Members of the group asked for reassurance that the SMHS and Macmillan centre schemes would be co-ordinated in order to minimise disruption to local residents.

Bridget explained that these schemes were at different ends of the campus and the site traffic would not interface. However, it was agreed that this principle was a sensible one, which had previously been agreed at the meeting in October. Cllr Morgan added that he would like to see the liaison between the Macmillan Cancer Centre and SMHS to be a model of co-operation as well as communication with local residents which could be emulated for the much larger 3Ts programme.

Action: BSUH/Kier/Macmillan

8. Any Other Business

Two local residents again raised concerns about staff smoking on Upper Abbey Road on a daily basis. Anna and Richard explained that regular bulletins with staff reinforced that this was not acceptable. Bridget described the various measures across the Trust to mitigate the problems associated with staff and visitors smoking:

- Contractors regularly clean up litter such as butts and food wrappings across the various construction projects
- Smoking cessation sessions are on offer to all staff
- Cigarette bins were provided in areas where staff are smoking regularly off site
- Smoking is not permitted anywhere on site

It appeared that there was also an issue of noise at shift changes. Richard and Anna offered to take this up with the staff restaurant, although it was acknowledged that it was difficult to prevent staff smoking whilst they were not technically on hospital grounds.

Action: Richard Beard/Anna Barnes

Cllr Morgan thanked everyone for attending.

9. Date of the Next Meeting: Monday 4th February 7pm-9pm 2012 AEB TBC.

Cardiac theatre - a hybrid combining cath lab and theatre

