

## **NAILSWORTH HEALTH PARTNERSHIP MEETING** 6<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

Held at Nailsworth Natural Health clinic, from 7:30. Minutes produced by Duncan Mann.

Marilyn Miles , Chair, leading the meeting.

### **Present:**

Val Bell  
Andrew Boddam-Whetham  
Tony Burton  
Jo Hofman  
Elfie Klinger  
Duncan Mann  
Marilyn Miles  
Ros Mulhall  
Paul Young

## **AGENDA**

### **1. Apologies**

Nick Peters, Paul Hofman, Susanna Priest, Janice Hooper, Poh-Eng San, Kerry Gill, Maureen Law, Norman Kay

### **2. Minutes of previous meeting**

These were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

### **Matters arising**

#### **i) Library Cuts**

The meeting discussed the letter drafted and sent by Marilyn Miles in her capacity of Chair of the NHP (see Appendix A). This letter was sent to the following:

- Cllr Mike Hawthorn
- Steve Robinson, Mayor of Nailsworth
- Cllr Frances Roden, Leader Stroud District Council
- Cllr John Waddington, County Councillor for Minchinhampton and Nailsworth

and urged them to consider the impact of the proposed library cutbacks on healthy lifestyles in the community.

The letter was thought to be instrumental in limiting the reduction of services in Nailsworth, though at this time it has yet to be formally confirmed what this will be – it is understood however that there will still be severe reduction in opening times, if not on quite the draconian scale originally envisaged. It is thought that Nailsworth Library will have *link library* status going forward, being a place where people can drop off, reserve and collect books, and where a delivery and collection service from main libraries (i.e. Stroud) can be made. As such it is thought that the library will open two days a week with potential for additional hours subject to local arrangements and availability of volunteers.

It was noted that notice has been served on about a dozen libraries in Gloucestershire that the County Council will effectively close them or hand them over to local communities. The meeting felt that the outcome achieved though regrettable was most likely the best available in the circumstances, and thanked Marilyn for her timely letter.

### **3. Reports of Sub Groups and their current membership**

#### **Talks –Nick Peters, Dr Ros, Tony Burton**

Joe Stratford, Consultant in Elderly Care Psychiatry, gave a talk on Alzheimer's & Dementia on the 24<sup>th</sup> March at Prices Mill Surgery.

The talk was attended by ten NHP members, and despite some slight confusion re the start time, was well received by those who attended, with a lively Q & A session at the end. Members had subsequently confirmed how useful they had found the presentation, especially in respect of some of the practical strategies for coping with relatives with Alzheimers.

Paul Young has subsequently written to Dr Stratford to thank him for his talk, (see Appendix B) and also to make a donation of £100 to the Alzheimer's Society. It was noted by Duncan that this donation was made by means of a CAF charity voucher in a personal effectively donated by Paul Young for this purpose, and thanked Paul for his generosity.

Donations were received on the night to the value of £27.50, which has been banked to the NHP Building Society account.

Discussion turned to subjects for a further talk to be promoted later in the year, and various ideas were floated, although no firm decisions were made. It was agreed that we would bring this matter back to the next meeting for finalisation.

#### **Walks – Pam Browne, Duncan Mann & Nick Peters**

The sub-group had spent much time previously considering the organisation of a walks festival, which would encompass the weekends of the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> May. Proposals included:

- Starter walk – 2-3 miles, using part of the cycle track in Watledge, on afternoon of Sat 7<sup>th</sup> May
- Story Walk/Treasure Hunt for younger people on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May
- Boundary Walk – this to consist of an 8 mile walk around the parish boundary, sub sections can be done if the whole walk too challenging
- A Town or Mill evening walk during the week

Duncan noted that he has spent a Sunday morning in the company of Jo & Paul Hofman investigating the merits of geo-caching, which is an outdoor sport where people navigate to specific points using GPS or map co-ordinates to hide and seek containers, called "geocaches", anywhere in the world. A typical cache is a small waterproof container containing a logbook where the geocacher enters the date they found it and signs it with their established code name. This is a growing sport, and Duncan thought that this may have some appeal to the younger generation.

Neither Pam nor Nick were available at this meeting, and it was understood that Nick's availability may be an issue at the moment. Duncan reported that he was under severe time restraints currently, given the imminence of financial year end, and in the circumstances it was decided that

we would defer the launch of any Waling Festival till later in year, perhaps the autumn, of maybe until 2012. Whilst this was regrettable, it was nonetheless felt that it would be better to do this event justice by investing sufficient time and energy to make it a success than to try to run an event that was half-hearted or disorganised. This was agreed.

### **Business Development Group (BDG)**

The BDG team met in late February, and agreed the following objectives for the near to medium term were agreed (in no particular order of priority):

1. Collaboration between traditional health practitioners with those from the complementary health background
2. Overall aim is to improve the care of the individual and a greater understanding between traditional and complementary approaches
3. Not only for professionals, it is to involve patients and the general public
4. Providing information about what is available
5. Responding to changes in the NHS and the mandatory move away from Primary Care Trusts to GP commissioning. There is likely to be a Stroud wide cluster of GPs within the Gloucestershire wide structure
6. Possibly facilitating the need for GP commissioners to consult with and be accountable to their local community about the health services they provide and what range of services should be available. Generally agreed we need to keep an open mind on the changes in the NHS
7. Improve/encourage healthy lives through education, events etc
8. Awareness of negative health influence e.g. pollution

In terms of activities, the following were proposed:

- At least 2 lectures/talks a year on a health topic to be open to the general public
- A health market on the lines of the Farmers' Market which would give information about local health providers/activities and possibly have taster sessions or direct people to where they may get taster sessions
- Practical events, i.e. Walking festival, Taster event (see above), first aid training or exploration of the continuum between healthy activities and sport
- Launch of the NHP website and directory of services

The BDG recognises that the NHP needs to increase its profile in the local community, and thus the idea of organising a centre spread in Nailsworth News was discussed, in the July issue. This will focus on photos and human interest stories if possible. Suggested ideas were:

- Photos of our patron Dan Robinson
- Something about the first talk on Alzheimer's/dementia
- Details of further events
- Changes to the NHS and how the NHP could help/influence these changes
- Recruitment drive – join the NHP!

Jo Hofman and Marilyn Miles are leading on this, and the content will be reviewed by the BDG before submission to Nailsworth News.

## **Website/Directory**

Paul was not available to update the members about progress in this area. Essentially, the website team have a clear idea about that is required, but are awaiting funding in order to progress a website for NHP.

Duncan however noted that he has now created a segment of the Prices Mill Surgery website that is dedicated to NHP, and that this is attracting a reasonable number of visitors.

## **4. Treasurer's Report**

The current funds available to the group consists of £72.30. Paul detailed the origins of the funding received to date.

## **5. Secretary's Report**

No Report

## **6. Prices Mill Surgery**

Duncan had circulated a discussion paper prior to the meeting (see Appendix C) which details NHS wide changes to the way in which GP practices relate to the communities and patients they serve.

To some extent, the changes have been prompted by the likely restructuring of the NHS, to remove two layers of management (at Primary Care Trust and Strategic Health Authority levels), and to give GPs responsibility for commissioning services directly. There is therefore a perceived need to put structures in place to allow patients to hold practices to account for this commissioning activity.

Prices Mill Surgery has long held the view that a good and open relationship with the community it serves is vital, hence its involvement with NHP, but these changes take things further in the sense that a formal Patient Participation Group (PPG) would need to be created, with Terms of Reference (TORs) that determine what it is there to do – for example:

- agree areas of priority
- collate patient views through a patient survey
- agree an action plan for practice development
- publicise the results of the patient survey
- publicise the actions taken and what is achieved as a result

It was agreed that this PPG could and should be a sub-group of NHP; it will need to have specific Terms of Reference drafted. Membership of the group would be open to all registered patients of the surgery. If the Prices Mill Surgery PPG is formed as a sub-group of the NHP, there does not need to be any formal change to the constitution of the latter.

It was agreed that this was an important development, indeed milestone in the relationship between the practice and its community, and Duncan will progress this by drafting specific Terms of Reference, and by publicising the creation of the group via the practice website and other means. It is planned that this will all be in place by July 2011.

## **7. Town Council Representation**

It was noted at the last meeting that the Town Council are keen to see the Community Centre used for health promotion purposes, and since this time, it had been agreed that they would discuss the appointment of a representative on the 17<sup>th</sup> May, unless any of the members of the NHP had any objection to this – there was no objection from the members present.

It remained unclear about whether the NTC wanted to have a member on the board specifically, or simply to have a member in attendance at meetings, though the development of item 7 above may have some bearing on this.

## **8. Any other business.**

None

## **Date of next meeting.**

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 7.30 PM venue Prices Mill Surgery



## Nailsworth Health Partnership

**Chair:** Marilyn Miles:      **Vice-Chair:** Nick Peters

**Secretary:** Duncan Mann:      **Treasurer:** Paul Young

Please reply to

Marilyn Miles  
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**Email:** [mbm@ankerbold.co.uk](mailto:mbm@ankerbold.co.uk)

17<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Cllr Mike Hawthorne  
3 Pitch View  
46 Kingsholm Road  
Gloucester. GL1 3AU

Dear Cllr Hawthorne

**Re: Proposed Library cuts**

I am writing to you as the newly appointed Chair of the Nailsworth Health Partnership (NHP). We may be a fledgling voluntary organisation but the depth of feeling on this issue within the membership is profound. Nailsworth is a thriving community which provides businesses and services to people in surrounding villages such as Horsley, Amberley, Avening, Woodchester, and Nymphsfield. One of the most valued services is the local library which is well used by old and young alike (and many in between too!). As well as providing books, videos and DVDs for loan, a place where local studies (historical, environmental, architectural etc) can be accessed it also has a good number of computer terminals whereby citizens can access the Internet. In addition there is a photocopying machine and a soft play area for children when they come with their parents to choose books (or just look at them). The local GP practice uses the library to prescribe books to help patients cope with their illness

You may wonder why a health partnership is writing to you about libraries. Healthy lifestyles are a matter of choice you might argue. But being able to access the services of the library within a short distance of where someone lives is of vital importance to people who value the social contact, the information it provides, the opportunity to develop their minds, and to feel they are part of the local community (a vital aspect of maintaining positive mental and emotional health). In order to participate in life, it is becoming more and more important that people are connected to the Internet. Not everyone can afford a home computer. I understand that as more and more service users in Social Services move to personalised budgets and more individualised care packages, access to the internet will be essential for delivery, monitoring, making adjustments, charging etc to the

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- To promote a healthier lifestyle in a healthier environment
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packages. Nailsworth library has such computer connections and it will make things more difficult if the only time the library is open is 3 hours a week

Your proposals to designate Nailsworth library as a Link Library – open a mere 3 hours a week – is devastating. Added to this you intend to abolish the mobile library service so those in outlying areas are even more cut off. The bus service from Nympsfield to Nailsworth runs 2 days a week – too bad if the opening times don't coincide with the bus timetable

The budget for libraries is not huge - 1.45% of the overall budget. The NHP understands that we are in a period of austerity and cuts in spending have to be made – but these library proposals are savage and are likely to have consequences which will impact on other services, some of which are the responsibility of the county (e.g. social services and education). Even impacts on the health of the community covered by the NHS may well have future impacts on social services

As a result of this consultation the NHP hopes that the Council will think again about the future of Library services in the County and in particular the big reduction in service to Nailsworth

Yours sincerely

Marilyn Miles  
Chair, Nailsworth Health Partnership

Copy  
Steve Robinson, Mayor of Nailsworth  
Cllr Frances Roden, Leader Stroud District Council  
Cllr John Waddington, County Councillor for Minchinhampton and Nailsworth



## Nailsworth Health Partnership

**Chair:** Marilyn Miles:      **Vice-Chair:** Nick Peters

**Secretary:** Duncan Mann:   **Treasurer:** Paul Young

Please reply to

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**Tel:** 01453-837807  
Email: [paul@crystalfontaim.myzen.co.uk](mailto:paul@crystalfontaim.myzen.co.uk)

**Tuesday, 29 March 2011**

Dr Joe Stratford  
Consultant Old Age Psychiatrist  
2Gether NHS Trust  
Weavers Croft  
STROUD  
GL5 2HZ

Dear Dr Stratford

Thank you very much for your most interesting talk on “Alzheimer’s & Dementia” which you were kind enough to give in Nailsworth on 24<sup>th</sup> March. As Treasurer of the Nailsworth Health Partnership (NHP) I am very pleased that you have inaugurated our activities in such an excellent way.

I would like to give you a personal donation to your charity of choice The Alzheimer’s Society and enclose a CAF charity voucher. Instructions for encashment are on the back.

Yours sincerely

Paul Young  
Treasurer, Nailsworth Health Partnership

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# Prices Mill Surgery

## Patient Participation – Discussion Document

### Background

The government have developed a policy to promote the proactive engagement of patients through the use of effective Patient Reference Groups and to seek views from practice patients through the use of a local patient survey.

### Requirements

The key requirements of this policy are that GP practices:

develop a structure that gains the views of patients and enables the practice to obtain feedback from the practice population, e.g. a patient reference group;

- agree areas of priority with their patient reference group
- collate patient views through a patient survey
- agree an action plan with their patient reference group;
- publicise the results of the patient survey;
- publicise the actions taken and what is achieved as a result.

### Quality Standards

The practice will aim to offer excellent access into the practice, and also from the practice to other services in its role as coordinator of care, facilitating access to other health and social care providers.

Access has many dimensions; the relative importance of these will vary according to the specific needs of the registered population. These dimensions include:

- Lists being open to all without discrimination
- Hours of opening with the ability to be seen urgently when clinically necessary, as well as the ability to book ahead.
- Continuity of care
- Range of skills available – access to different professionals
- A choice of modes of contact which currently includes face-to-face, phone and electronic contact but can be developed further as technology allows.
- Geographical access, enabling care as close to home as possible.

### For discussion at NHP meeting

The practice needs to agree with NHP the following points:

- to discuss the procedures for electing some interested parties from the NHP (who are registered with Prices Mill Surgery) to sit on a sub-group which is responsible for liaising with the practice. The procedures need to cover how we go about publicising the workings of the sub-group, and how interested people can go about contributing to the workings of this group.
- Set the terms of reference for the sub-group – this could reference the need to advise in respect of the patient survey, its analysis and action plan, amongst other things
- Brief the members of this sub-group as to the practice's perspectives and set timescales.
- Discuss the need to review the constitution of the NHP in order to create the above sub-group, and formally detail its remit