

# **AVON LOC AGM**

## **MINUTES**

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

**BAWA 589 Southmead Rd, Filton, Bristol**

**18.30-20.45**

### **Present**

Andy Beavis, Ruth Bowering, Ruth Davies, Marian Donovan, Andrew Edwards, Lynne Fernandes, Simon Goldsmith, John Hopcroft , Amy Hughes, Ruth Low, Chris Newell, Nina Newsom, Adam Ogidi, Jenny Ogidi, Gary Orriss, Meera Patel, Andrew Pinn, Amar Shah, Peter Turner.

### **1. Apologies**

Kate Craig, Wally Pilbeam

### **2. Minutes of last AGM**

Approved

### **3. Matters Arising**

None

### **4. Chairman's report – Amar Shah**

So we come to another AGM and another year of LOC ups and downs. This year has been a challenging one with a number of changes afoot.

The merger of Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire CCGs is now in place and will cause changes to many local contracts over the next few years.

Our local Primary Eyecare Company (PEC) has now become part of PEC Southern - a larger PEC which will help with costs and efficiencies.

We haven't had any new schemes come about in the last year but have been battling to keep existing ones afloat and alongside that trying to bring BANES into the 21st Century but challenged by ever changing staff.

The team that serves on the committee with me have worked tirelessly and here are just a few snippets of what they have done/achieved in the past year:

Andrew Pinn – Our treasurer, PEC Director and lead for cataract. He has worked tirelessly, and often with an uphill battle, to keep the post op cataract scheme running with Bristol Eye Hospital and is in talks to expand this if possible. He is one of our main conduits with the CCG and the commissioners there and it helps as most know him now as one of our longest standing committee members. I think my fellow committee members will join me in thanking him for all his hard work and commitment as he is our hardest working member.

Andrew Edwards – Our BANES lead, focusing on our BANES colleagues and has been working to try and get the post-op cataract and IOP repeat measures schemes back up and running. He has even been told there may be a possibility of a MECS scheme. However, there have been many hindrances, not least multiple staff changes – who are not leaving their notes behind!

Lynne Fernandes – via the LOC, Lynne is our rep for NHS England South West on the performers list decision panel (PDLP). They have cases referred to them from the performance advisory group, who act in an advisory and investigatory capacity to clinicians. They PDLP then decide whether a clinician can continue with NHS work or remain with conditions or be removed temporarily or permanently.

Peter Turner – Our glaucoma lead, PEC director, vice chair and our resident “inside man” at Bristol Eye Hospital

John Hopcroft – Our MECs lead and alongside...

Meera Patel – our link to get eye care on to the agenda of the sustainability and transformation plans (STPs) of our local CCGs and trusts.

Amy Hughes – Our secretary and in many cases the first point of contact from clinicians and external folk getting in touch with the LOC. She has been an invaluable part of the LOC team – keeping us in check and making sure our legal obligations are met. She has worked hard to keep our links with LOCSU and JCL Consulting – both providing us with guidance and regulatory as well as admin support. I would like to specially pass on my thanks to Amy for everything that she does to help the LOC and local practitioners.

Jenny Ogidi – Special thanks must be passed to Jenny for helping to organise this year's AGM sponsors and for getting some funding for this year's event.

Anne-Ita McHugh – In the early part of the year, Anne-Ita was the vice chair for the local eye health network (LEHN) and has worked with links at the RNIB on a project to improve links with Black and Minority Ethnic communities in Bristol.

Mark Humphrey-Ali – our newest member and our resident DO representative. Mark has taken part and got stuck into the LOCSU led training that is now available for new committee members and has taken an active role in all discussions – I know he is keen to get his teeth into a project when one presents itself.

Me - Amar Shah – Chairperson and direct link with the CCG and BEH. I have been a link for some local clinicians and external bodies as well as trying to increase the number of our local CET events. I have continued to be the main link for the website admin and it's great to see so many local clinicians registered for the site. I guess my main role is to keep us on track and keep meetings to a minimum and as efficient as they can be.

As you can see from this list of our headline roles and responsibilities – we don't always have a lot of new things to present but that doesn't stop the constant work going on in the background to keep schemes running and support of local practices and practitioners.

## **5. Treasurer's report – Andrew Pinn**

I continued the treasurer's role from May 2017 to today

My remit was to manage the incomes and expenses of the Avon LOC.

Avon LOC income for the last year was £38,810 the majority £34,712 was from the statutory levy. The Avon LOC proportion of the statutory levy remained at 0.6%. (The levy is deducted by NHS England as a percentage from the NHS GOS sight test fee prior to payment to GOS contractors.)

Other income was from the sponsorship of our AGM, funding of CET from residual funds of the Bristol Society of Opticians, payment by NHS England for providing representation at the PLDP (Performers List Decision Making Panel), payment by Bath and North East Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group for LOC representation at their meetings and payment for places at our October MECS accreditation event by candidates from outside our area.

The proportion of statutory levy paid to LOCSU remained at 0.5%.

Expenditure by Avon LOC was £30,107 which includes the costs of MECS accreditation event. Overall approximately 10% less than last year.

Compared to last year:

Expenditure on the National Optometric Conference was more as we sent 4 delegates to the new format one day conference

Expenditure on our website was less as our website which was redesigned and relaunched two years ago only needed maintaining and content updating which is completed by committee members.

The work carried out by the committee was split between work carried out by individual committee members and work carried out by our retained consultant JCL consulting. Over the last two years a higher proportion of this work has been carried out by committee members with support from LOCSU.

The combined cost was less than the previous year as there has been a slightly lower level of activity around new commissioning following the 2017 general election.

Committee member attendance at LOC committee meetings is still funded which is in line with the practices of other LOCs in England.

In my view the time costs invoiced by the committee members in the last year has been significantly less than they could have legitimately claimed.

I recommend keeping the statutory levy at 0.6% for the time being.

I would like to thank Ruth Davies for auditing the accounts and recommend the AGM appoints her to audit next year's accounts as long as she is happy to do so.

I am happy to answer any questions you have.

Ruth Davies appointed to audit next year's accounts.

## **6. Constitution**

There are no proposed changes to the constitution.

## **7. LOCSU Membership**

Continued membership to LOCSU proposed, seconded and motion carried.

## **8. Elections to Committee**

John Hopcroft, Amy Hughes, Jenny Ogidi and Amar Shah elected unopposed.

There are two available positions remaining on the committee; anyone interested should contact Amy Hughes or Amar Shah to come along to a meeting.

## **9. Any other business**

There was a question about whether it was possible to discharge patients from the community OHT monitoring scheme.

A discharge framework is being worked on and it is hoped will be finalised in the next year. This is a complicated piece of work as patients need to be assessed for discharge on a case by case basis.

Meeting closed 20.45