



Brighton & Hove
City Council

Older People's Council

Title:	Older People's Council
Date:	12 September 2017
Time:	10.15am
Venue	Jubilee Library - Public meeting
Members:	Colin Vincent (Chair), Eyles, Bojczuk, Shields, Tonks and Goslett Co-opted members: John Cook, Jack Hazelgrove, Michael Whitty
Contact:	Giles.rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk 01273 295514



Older People's Council – Our Mission and Vision

We are elected to serve older people. We work to ensure that all older people in Brighton & Hove are treated with respect and dignity and have access to services, support and the opportunity to lead a fulfilling life. We are working to create a city where: the contribution of all older people is acknowledged and valued; the needs of older people are recognised and met ; and older people are involved in making decisions that affect their daily lives and the communities in which they live.

**Brighton & Hove's Older People's Council in association with
Age UK Brighton & Hove and Pensioner Action**



AGENDA

329 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

Apologies and Declarations of Interest.

330 WELCOME TO THE AGM

331 MINUTES

1 - 16

To consider (a) the minutes of the last meeting held on 18 July 2017 and (b) matters arising from the minutes.

Also included for information are the approved minutes from the previous year's Annual General Meeting (20 September 2016).

332 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

333 ANNUAL REPORT

334 THE BIG CONVERSATION - CARING TOGETHER IN BRIGHTON & HOVE (OUR SUSTAINABILITY & TRANSFORMATION PARTNERSHIP)

Sussex & East Surrey Sustainability & Transformation Partnership (STP): engagement and consultation. Tom Gurney, Associate Director of Communications, Brighton & Hove and High Weald Lewes Havens Clinical Commissioning Groups, will present.

335 THE FUTURE OF THE OPC

17 - 18

A discussion on the future of the OPC (paper to be supplied by the OPC)

336 OPC WORK PROGRAMME

337 GREY MATTERS

338 SECRETARY'S UPDATE

339 MEMBERS' UPDATE

340 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

OLDER PEOPLE'S COUNCIL

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. Provision is also made on the agendas for public questions to committees and details of how questions can be raised can be found on the website and/or on agendas for the meetings.

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For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact , (01273 291084, email karen.amsden@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email scrutiny@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Date of Publication – 07 September 2017

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

OLDER PEOPLE'S COUNCIL

10.15am 18 JULY 2017

HOVE TOWN HALL, ROOM G90 - HTH

MINUTES

Present: Colin Vincent (Chair), Penny Morley, John Eyles, Mike Bojczuk, Lynne Shields and Francis Tonks

Co-opted Members: Michael Whitty

PART ONE

320 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

320.1 Apologies were received from John Cook and Jack Hazelgrove.

321 MINUTES

321.1 The following amendments were made to the minutes:

- Under 312.3 to add the website address www.digitalbrightonandhove.org.uk to the information on the Digital Partnership.
- Under item 318 to recognise that the actions listed on page 9 starting with 'Attended Pensioners Association Meeting' were carried out by Francis Tonks.

321.2 Matters arising

- Lynne Shields has written a letter to the Muslim community to send their condolences to them.
- Lynne Shields has used the council website to complain about toilet provision.
- Colin Vincent still to speak to Cllr Allen about the Open Market toilet.
- Query about council diaries & KA now sent out to OPC members.
- Mike Bojczuk to put a question to next Housing Committee about older people in tower blocks.
- Penny Morley has written to Geoff Raw re: high rise blocks, the elderly and emergency provision and received a response which has been shared with the other OPC members.
- KA has written to Comms and PPS team about the budget and timetable for the annual report of the OPC. Lynne Shields to edit the text she has received from the other OPC members and then forward to KA.
- Michael Whitty was praised for the work being done to identify aged, isolated and vulnerable people in Withdean and Patcham, Westdene and Hollingbury.

- The OPC were pleased to hear about fire checks being carried out in care homes by firefighters.
- Mr Scott had informed the OPC about an open meeting re: Valley Gardens and to keep an eye on this issue and potentially invite Buswatch to a future meeting.

322 NEIGHBOURHOODS, COMMUNITIES & HOUSING

- 322.1 Larissa Reed, the Executive Director for Neighbourhoods Communities and Housing (BHCC) began by explaining that her responsibilities included emergency planning (examples of emergencies she was involved in included the 7/7 London Bombing and incidents in Canterbury). She was the local authority representative on the Sussex Resilience Forum Executive which also includes the police and army.
- 322.2 The council has an emergency plan which has been agreed with the first responders (blue light services) and statutory services. The council role is to provide council services in an emergency setting, e.g. where needed providing rest centres rather than housing. Their key focus is to look after people, although Building Control will look at buildings. Unfortunately the councillors and officers have a lot of experience of emergency issues, due to incidents such as the Shoreham Airport crash – where although not in our area, BHCC took the lead. Last Christmas BHCC had to decant a tower block of residents into hotels and this involved weekly meetings with the fire service and regular meetings with other emergency services.
- 322.3 The council stages a number of pretend incidents, e.g. for a week to see how dealt with serious weather such as flooding and act out what would happen in such a situation. To add to the reality have people posing as reporters present and the army sit in, all too make the incident seem real. Increasingly a lot of testing is done rather than reacting to incidents, chiefly because of the time it can take to hold an enquiry into real disasters such as Hillsborough and the Marchioness.
- 322.4 The council has 24 tower blocks with cladding, but none of them have the same materials as Grenfell Tower. The council is now working with the freeholders of private tower blocks. For example Sussex Heights, which is the tallest tower block in the city, where there are known to be older and disabled residents. The council has sent out a checklist to all freeholders and have offered them safety checks. The council is also offering to visit any people who are concerned about fire safety issues e.g. to develop their own personal evacuation plan. It is a struggle to get people to agree to have this visit, so would welcome any help from the OPC to encourage take up. The visit is free and is very useful and the information will only be used for that person's safety. Larissa explained that she had her visit. She also confirmed that information in individual plans would not affect the resident's insurance, e.g. for flooding. Insurance organisations would already ask people in high rise flats about fire incidents.
- 322.5 The council has also written to all the Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) about this issue and are going to update the information on our website to reflect this. Some tower blocks have pro-actively contacted the council about fire safety. Then last Friday morning there was a small fire in Sussex Heights, which was well contained and the fire service was there within 6 minutes. The voluntary sector was on standby to help and the evacuation plan was used to evacuate 3 people.

- 322.6 Sprinkler systems in tower blocks could become mandatory, which was a recommendation after the Lakanal House fire in 2009 but not made mandatory then. The council has put in sprinklers in their new build such as Brookmead, due to its vulnerable tenants. They also have a programme for installing sprinklers, based on the risk of inhabitants e.g. vulnerability or if a resident has a history of fire starting. **Action:** LR to provide the OPC with information on when sprinklers are still due to be installed.
- 322.7 Larissa confirmed that none of the BHCC buildings have the same aluminium cladding as Grenfell Tower. While they have four blocks with the same system, they do not have the same materials so are not combustible. The council was good at dealing with fire. There was a tendency to box in pipework, which realised could be creating a chimney – so we are now making sure that putting in a fire resistant stop and checking it meets building regulations. Checks were also being made to identify where leaseholders have removed fire safety doors. Another safety concern is windows, for example in Essex Place where there was a fire fatality. Whilst some residents ask about fire windows in the blocks, then complaints are made because one cannot open the windows.
- 322.8 The council was offering private tower blocks the opportunity to work with them on fire safety and work together to suggest and identify potential problems and make them known to the Fire Service. **Action:** LR to provide information on fire safety and links that the OPC can put on their website. Larissa had an hour long interview on fire safety on BBC Radio Sussex and would be happy to be interviewed by Grey Matters. She was also a police trainer on local authority responses to emergencies. Action: LR to develop a text box on fire safety that could be put into newsletters and on websites and forward to the OPC, Communities Team and Democratic Services Team. Michael Whitty explained that the Withdean LAT newsletter contained a fire safety item.

Questions to Larissa

322.9 *Do you operate a gold and silver and bronze system for dealing with emergencies?*

LR explained that there was a gold and silver rota for major incidents such as Pride. The gold trained staff undertake the strategic oversight and make decisions, silver staff act as the operational decision makers and bronze staff will be on site and there will also be incident liaison officers. This is a similar system as used by Fire and Police and means at BHCC there are 5 trained competent person able to take on the role of gold commander (contactable 24 hours a day in an emergency) 365 days per year.

It is good to hear about the work being done on fire safety with care homes and nursing homes where there are vulnerable people and the regular checks these homes are subject to, but how often are hotels checked who often accommodate elderly people?

LR explained that hotels, both large and small were not regularly checked, it was the responsibility of Fire Safety to deal with hotels. However this council and the Fire Service had an extremely close working relationship and had held regular meetings since 1979 to have oversight of the key issues facing the city.

I recognise that there are resource issues for both the Fire Service and BHCC, so who would carry out inspections of Homes in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)?

There is the Housing, health & safety rating system (HHSRS) which can be used to assess whether HMOs present such a risk and the authority has the right to take action and get the HMO closed down. The council does have to be invited to inspect the property and then make a report, or without this permission can go to get a court and get a warrant to be able to inspect. BHCC is currently consulting on a licensing programme for HMOs after a pilot project for 12 wards, and this would involve regular fire safety checks.

Are we still checking lifts and specifically what plans do you have for people with disabilities?

LR explained that the council had invested significantly in lifts and the advice to residents was not to enter lifts in cases of fire. Only use a fire lift in such situations. There is a lift maintenance checking programme which has led to much improved lift performance. Although the council was good at fire, it would always learn from disasters such as the fire at Lakanal House.

Was it still the best advice to remain in one's flat in the case of a fire? Grenfell Tower has made people concerned about this policy.

It is still best to stay put until you have been advised otherwise by the fire service. They would give a Commander on site and an evacuation plan and the foremost concern for the fire service is peoples' safety. If the fire is in your flat then you can help by leaving your flat and closing the door, but if the fire is in another property then it is best to stay in your home with a closed door and dial 999. Fire houses in Haywards Heath are used to train fire fighters get people out safely. It was important to remember that 225 were saved by the fire service at Grenfell Tower, made possible by their training.

How are local authorities learning from the issues experienced by LB Kensington & Chelsea?

BHCC were meeting with the voluntary sector this afternoon, as they have been identified as crucial in terms of the response and activity they can provide especially as one reaches day 3 of an emergency – such as the Red Cross and Womens Institute. At Grenfell there was no co-ordination of these volunteers a week after the disaster. LR was also producing briefings for councillors, and providing training, as those in Kensington & Chelsea were criticised for not being visible after the event.

How do we bring our communities together and encourage their resilience? Some OPC members have attended resilience workshops which were populated with professionals but not members of the public.

LR agreed that there were significant communications issues with events such as Grenfell Tower, for example on day 1 the fire service was hailed as heroic but by day 6 was being pressurised to name victims. If insufficient information is not given out, then people will fill in the gaps. There was a need to emphasise that the services were standing together. Community trust was fragile and leaders are expected to be visible. LR praised the Leader of Camden Council who spoke publically about the issues they were facing about decanting tenants out of fire blocks. She felt that although the staff of K&C had done a significant amount of work to respond to Grenfell Tower, the leaders

needed to be more visible. In Brighton & Hove all 3 leaders are visible with senior officers when a disaster happens.

I would like it recorded that helicopters on roofs do not work due to updraft.

LR explained that 'water curtains' were not used in the UK. She was concerned that in some schemes people had not wanted sprinklers as the water could ruin their belongings. Michael Whitty emphasised the importance of people being made aware that the sprinklers used such a fine mist that it would not damage property.

322.10 The OPC expressed an interest in these issues and had written a letter of concern to the council's Chief Executive. LR recognised that they could be a valuable part of the community to use in terms of their website and meetings. Also if digital information was not accessed by older people, it could still be valuable to their family and/or carers. It was agreed that it was valuable to target digitally savvy older people in blocks and encourage them to disseminate information. It was agreed that education on fire safety was vital and that there was a need for a communications strategy for the city especially sheltered blocks. LR was responsible for the Digital First Programme and had also experienced difficulties in residents not being willing to pay for WiFi. However Wifi sensors in Leach Court could also be used to detect humidity levels. LR would appreciate the assistance of the OPC when rolling out programmes such as this.
Action: LR to contact the OPC about link officers/councillors in relation to emergencies.

What actions have being taken in relation to the recommendations in the Fairness Commission relating to older people?

LR informed the OPC that the priority actions which were agreed are being taken forward by the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities (NICE) Committee. Action: LR to ask for an update on actions for older people for the next committee meeting.

What about asbestos safety in the city?

322.11 LR explained that the council had an asbestos register of all its buildings. They have all been sealed up and checked and the register is public. She ended by explaining that while the council could not have a plan for every eventuality, its training and relationship building makes it able to deal with eventualities.

323 BUILDING OUR FUTURE

323.1 Penny Morley informed the OPC that the officers would be meeting Emma McDermott, Head of Communities to discuss funding opportunities on 31st July. Officers would then meet in August to plan an options paper for the September AGM. Penny Morley and Lynne Shields then confirmed that they would not be re-standing for their current roles. Mike Bojczuk asked if it would be possible to receive details in advance of the people who would be putting themselves forward for roles in the OPC, as he was not able to attend the AGM and would like to be able to vote in advance. **Action:** Officers of the

OPC to communicate with OPC members about the AGM and the meeting on funding opportunities, prior to the AGM.

323.2 OPC members discussed organisations that could be approached to find potential OPC recruits including the Pensioners Organisation and the Pensioners Association. Many other organisations seemed to be experiencing similar difficulties in attracting new members and choosing topics which will encourage attendees to their meetings. Other suggestions included: inviting people to become associate members (used by Age UK) and finding ways to gain support from national organisations, but in a way where one was able to retain regional autonomy. The importance of harnessing community enthusiasm and encouraging greater involvement

323.3 The OPC members then considered ways to attract more people including; reducing the number of meetings, holding fundraising and awareness raising events, focussing on a few key issues for the year. **Action:** OPC members to forward any suggestions to Penny for the options paper. OPC members to meet with Pensioners Association

323.4 It was agreed that the options paper for the September AGM would then incorporate the learning from summer and present a range of options for the future of the OPC to be voted on at the AGM.

324 OPC WORK PROGRAMME

324.1 It was agreed that Thomas Gurney who is responsible for Communications in Brighton & Hove CCG would be invited to talk to the September AGM, and the future of the OPC would be the other focus of the meeting. **Action:** OPC to notify Karen of the key issues they wished Thomas Gurney to focus on. **Action:** OPC to decide if they wish to invite Judith from Digital First to the October OPC meeting.

324.2 Actions: Karen has booked Room G70 in Hove Town Hall for the officers meeting in August. Karen has emailed ICT service desk about the OPC telephone number and will let them know when she receives a response.

325 GREY MATTERS

325.1 Colin Vincent had visited Grey Matters yesterday, which seemed to be going well and had been awarded a grant of £2,000 to update their static and portable recording equipment. Colin Vincent and Penny Morley to arrange being interviewed about the future of the OPC. It was suggested that a poster could be put on buses to raise awareness of the project and its' broadcasts and a flyer for noticeboards.

326 SECRETARY'S UPDATE

SECRETARIAL REPORT - JULY 2017

- **High Rise Housing** - Letter sent to Chief Executive raising concerns at OPC public meeting concerning fire hazards. Brighton & Hove owns 43 high rise flats

in the City with full cladding on 20 & 3 more with some form of cladding. Response from Chief Executive circulated with confirmation of updating information after further investigations at a forthcoming OPC meeting.

- **Communities , Equalities & Third Sector** - meeting arranged with Emma McDermott for Monday 31st July at 10.00 at Hove Town Hall to discuss OPC options for future.
- **Age Friendly City** - Rob Persey has confirmed that the AFC Steering Group is an important part of the Public Health Older Peoples programme and that the next meeting will remain scheduled for the 14th September.
- **AFC Forum** - The next meeting is on the 4th September at Age UK. Rob Persey requested information about the forum with the view to new appointee attending a future meeting.
- **Older People's Festival** - being organised by Impact Initiatives who have contacted us about participation in the festival. **Discuss**
- **OPC Annual Report** - OPC members were requested to provide a 200 word report of activities by 16th July. Karen has liaised with design and print team. **Discuss**
- **OPC phone line** - This seems to have been removed without any communication with ourselves. **Discuss**
- **OPC meeting dates** - the rest of 2017 confirmed as 12th September(AGM at JL), 17th October, 14th November and 12th December (JL).
- **Age UK** - Jess Sumner has been appointed to lead Community Works and will therefore be leaving Age UK. Age UK have advertised for an interim Chief Executive.
- **Private Rented Sector Consultation** - BHCC is currently consulting on a city wide Additional Licensing Scheme for the whole city. Consultation closes on the 10th September.
- **Possability People** - holding an Open Day on Monday 26th July at 14 Windelsham Avenue between 10 and 3.00.
- **Theatre Royal** - want to meet us and discuss events and they have a Matinee Club. On Thursday 20th July they have a star of the West End Shirley Valentine in discussion also includes tea and cake for £6.

327 MEMBERS' UPDATE

COLIN VINCENT

17/6/17 Attended STP Working Group Meeting

Evelyn Barker, Manager Director Brighton & Hove University Hospital Trust and a Board member, gave an update on current situation. The acute Trust now involved in discussions on STP. The hospital remains in special measures both clinical and financial. A Consultants report commissioned by the Trust indicates a shortage of 78 beds. Wards in the Emerton building closed, deemed as unsuitable by CQC. However new beds will become available in an Emergency Floor building in September. Current staff vacancies situation: 104 Nurses and 150 for Assistants.

Meeting open to the public, in addition to questions raised by HOSC working group members and others from members of Defend the NHS. I asked inter alia about the future of the RACOP Clinic. The Rapid Assessment Centre for Older People, Ms Barber replied that the Trust had no plans to close any services.

22/6/17 Health & Social Care Networking Meeting

Organised jointly by the CCG Health & Partnership Board and Community Works to discuss new ways of delivering care and attended by a plethora of voluntary service provider organisations and Council officers involved in commissioning H & S C services Jane Lodge who co-ordinated the proceedings stated that the CCG was conducting a review of all secondary care contracts it had with voluntary organisations. The event programme included group sessions where participants were asked to consider case studies and to suggest what range of care services could be provided to meet their individual needs.

At some stage in the proceedings the dreaded phrase “ service redesign ”was used which usually equates to a reduction in cost and the quality of service provided

11/7/17 Attended extraordinary meeting of the SENPec Committee at the Unite Offices in Crawley called to regenerate the interest of the Regions affiliated membership of retired groups in the campaigning activities of the National Pensioners Convention. Number of suggestions adopted which will be carried forward to the AGM
In September.

13/7/17 Keeping People Healthy event

Organised by CCG with the aim of supporting people in the city afflicted by health issues leading to early

Deaths majority in areas of economic deprivation; e.g. Smoking, Obesity, Drug and Alcohol Misuse , Cancer, Programmes including one to one support on offer outlined by representatives of Professional and Voluntary organisations.

17/7/17 Grey Matters Planning Meeting

Full programme of interviews either on tape for broadcasting or in the course of preparation. Have agreed to assist in an updating interview with the Men In Sheds project leader and participants at their workshop, interview to be arranged with Penny and myself to inform listeners about the OPC situation.

Francis Tonks

- Was to attend a Pensioners Association meeting in August
- Recently sang for Grey Matters in Active Singing for Better Health, at a recent celebration attracting 100 people
- Still participating in the ASC Self-Funders project between Brighton University and Age UK. This met regularly and was networking with other areas.

Mike Bojczuk

- Continuing to work with Albion in the Community on skin cancer awareness at events such as Paddle Round the Pier

- Digital Awareness work at the Whitehawk Festival and there is an app which is linked to My Life <https://www.mylifebh.org.uk/>
- Helping again at Kings College Hospital in palliative care research
- SVP are about to take over Tower House and are aiming for a September re-opening after cleaning out the site. It will target older people across the city, initially offering lunch clubs and will have a limited access to transport

Michael Whitty

- Opening day 18th June for the Friends of Westdene Green. They will hold lunches for older people.
- Attended the Maycroft Manor care home barbecue
- 12th July attended the NHS digital conference at Brighthelm which had useful information on digital equipment which can be used e.g. to renew prescriptions. Particularly useful as 80% currently telephone to book doctor's appointments
- 13th July chaired a LAT meeting re: identifying lonely residents
- 18th July attended Withdean and Patcham Area Network. In process of producing a second newsletter which will be sent out to 10,000 older people in August and will cover issues such as fire safety and scams on vulnerable people. Action: MW to send MB an electronic copy to put on OPC website
- 22nd July to attend Maycroft Manor garden party

Lynne Shields

- June 22nd I attended the Health and Social Care Network at Community Base. Invaluable for updates on Caring Together and the latest on the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) July 4th The Big Health Conversation at The Dome. Made recommendation that the information shared at the event should be rolled out as "roadshows" (specifically in Whitehawk and Queens Park - my wards) I have since confirmed with community workers in Whitehawk that this is happening in September.
- July 6th Friends of Brighton and Hove Hospitals. Launch of a new project in support of older patients. They are raising a lot of money for small but significant projects.
- July 6th Attended my Local Action Team Meeting at St Johns Cornerstone.
- July 10th An evaluation of the Age Friendly City Falls Prevention programme at Hove Town Hall. By an external company employed by ROSPER.
- July 12th Safeguarding training for Healthwatch (I am a volunteer on the Enter and View programme).
- July 18th OPC Meeting at Hove Town Hall
- July 20th Involved in Age UK B and H research (medicine acquisition and use) July 24th Healthwatch interview with practice manager of a service for the homeless and those living in temporary accommodation.

John Eyles

Via E.S.T committee 27/06 discussed items:-

- * Mazda fountain still under discussion with Valley Gardens scheme. Green areas and space for events, re-comm: approval funding not yet identified.
- * Clarity required on process for road closures for community events

- * 45 tons of litter left on beach after holiday weekend. 50 new bins to be installed with extra staff via City-clean.
- * Possible clean-air charges for diesel vehicles.
- * Open spaces strategy to establish a Parks Foundation for fund raising and re-investment to parks and tennis provision. Who will be members and chair.
- * Allotments and watering to be limited to attended systems within a time period, possible subsidised bins for water containers.
- * Possible recharge for re-establishment of green areas after events currently no past charging. Suggested to ring-fence monies raised from hire of parks to re-invest with City Parks.
- * Biosphere needs new identity and will hold seminars in October.
- * Air quality Govt draft consultation report due end of July.
- * Hove cemetery toilets, N side closed due to lack of use and budgetary decisions reconsideration refused.
- * Francis street revisions/Hanover and Elm grove/Craven vale traffic reviews in process.
- * Balfour Road/Preston Village traffic parking schemes to proceed to implementation.
- * Tender for Bus Lane cameras in hand for 2yrs + 3yrs extendable.
- * Hove Station/Gardens proposals on hold and referred to the District Valuer for re-assessment of 'affordable housing' elements

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328 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting concluded at 1.10pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

OLDER PEOPLE'S COUNCIL

10.15am 20 SEPTEMBER 2016

CONFERENCE ROOM 2, JUBILEE LIBRARY, JUBILEE STREET, BRIGHTON

MINUTES

Present: Mike Bojczuk (Chair), Colin Vincent, Francis Tonks, John Eyles and Nick Goslett

Co-opted Members: Jack Hazelgrove (Older People's Council)

Others Present:

PART ONE

232 WELCOME TO THE AGM

- 232.1 The Chair thanked everyone for coming to the AGM and welcomed them to the meeting.
- 232.2 Attendees were asked to record their names. The following people attended the AGM: Peter Huntbach, Chris Martin, John Cook, Sally Watson, John D Moore, John Fitzgerald, Ken Childerhouse, Simon Casson, Diane Cook, Peter Lloyd, Sue Howley, Valerie Mainstone, Janet Sang, Steve Andrews and Martina Giegon.

233 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

- 233.1 Apologies were received from Lynne Shields.

234 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- 234.1 The draft minutes of the July 2016 OPC meeting were approved.

Matters Arising

- 234.2 The Chair of the Patcham CAT who was present in the audience, queried the reference in the minutes to the CAT. MB explained that there was no OPC representative for Patcham as no one has stood for election. It had been suggested that this gap could be filled by co-opting a representative from the LAT. The LAT Chair agreed to consider this.
- 234.3 Following a request from the audience it was agreed that the people attending the AGM should have their names recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

235 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- 235.1 Penny Morley proposed the election of Mike Bojczuk as Chair, Colin Vincent as Vice-Chair and Lynne Shields as Treasurer which was seconded by John Eyles and Francis Tonks. This was unanimously agreed.
- 235.2 Mike Bojczuk proposed election of Penny Morley as Secretary. This was seconded by Francis Tonks and unanimously agreed.
- 235.3 It was noted that, as LS was not able to attend the AGM, her consent was required before she was appointed as Treasurer.
- 235.4 **RESOLVED** – That Mike Bojczuk be confirmed as OPC Chair for the coming year; Colin Vincent as Vice-Chair; Penny Morley as Secretary; and, subject to her consent, Lynne Shields as Treasurer.

236 ANNUAL REPORT

- 236.1 MB introduced the 2015/16 OPC Annual Report.
- 236.2 It was suggested that further steps be taken to involve city MPs more in the work of the OPC. It was agreed that local MPs should be invited to an OPC meeting in the coming year.
- 236.3 There was discussion of key concerns about local health and care services, particularly the closure of a number of city GP practices in recent months and the problem this posed to older people forced to travel further to see a GP.
- 236.4 There was discussion of digital exclusion. Members agreed that this was an important issue and that the city council should be approached to see what research had been conducted locally and what measures were planned to digitally include older people.

237 SECRETARY'S UPDATE

SECRETARIAL REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2016

- **Annual Report** - During summer OPC members provided sections for the report and it was edited. Meet with Council officers for further discussions and report passed to design for production.
- **OPC Officers** met on the 9th August and discussed a range of issues including Fairness Commission, OPC Intergenerational Debate, Falls and Public Toilets.
- **Age Friendly Steering Group** - met on the 8th September and discussed Older People and Employment. Presentations and minutes will be circulated. Agreed that any BHCC programmes with partners should ensure that older people are included in support for employment programmes.
- **Age Friendly City Forum** - The next meeting will be on Monday 26th September at Age UK in Prestonville Road Brighton at 10.15. We will get an update about support from Age UK and discuss the future focus for the forum.

- **Fairness Commission** - Meeting with Councillor Emma Daniel held on the 6th September to discuss the recommendations as they affect older people. We discussed our concern about non-digital forms of communication being available to older people and to target those most in need. They wanted OPC to identify three priorities out of the recommendations for implementation. There was a suggestion of a workshop with Possibility people re the Access recommendations. **Need to discuss**
- **Older People's Festival** - This year the Older People's Day on the 1st October has been extend to a two week festival with copies of the programme available on line at <http://impact-initiatives.org.uk/opf/> and in paper form. It runs from the 26th September to the 7th October. The OPC are involved in an intergenerational debate at Dorothy Stringer School on the 27th September at 4.15 pm. The topic is that "We believe that older and younger generations have far more in common than is often suggested in the media."
- **NHS Sub-contracting** - Correspondence between the Chair of the Parliamentary Health Committee & Jeremy Hunt & NHS England on the subject of liability & lines of accountability & monitoring relating to the commissioning of private health providers has been seen by OPC. They raise concerns about subcontracting and accountability which could be raised with HWBB and/or CCG?
- **Home Care Contract** - A new contract started on the 5th September for 5 years between BHCC & CCG. There are 10 main providers & 10 back up providers and Living Wage of £8.25 is to be paid. OPC to receive an update on contract at October meeting.
- **City Parks** - A consultation is open until the 28th October re the future of the parks and open spaces. The budget is to be cut by £600,000 to £3.4 million between now & 2020.
- **N H S D e m e n t i a A t l a s** - P l a c e d o n O P C w e b s i t e - [h t t p : / / o l d e r p e o p l e s c o u n c i l . o r g / p u b l i c h e a l t h . h t m l](http://olderpeoplescouncil.org/publichealth.html)
- **East Sussex Fire & Rescue** - Undertaking fee electric blanket testing on September 20th at Hove Town Hall, September 21st at Preston Circus Fire Station & 22nd at Reedman Fire Station. Appointments to be made call 08001777069.

Invitations

- **City Wide Connect** - The next hubs meetings are East on 22nd September in Dorset Gardens. North/Central 29th September at Brighthelm and West on 5th October at Ralli Hall Hove.
- **Fitness MOT for over 50s** - Organised by Active for Life at King Alfred on 29th September. Free but booking required - contact 01273-292724
- **Dementia Friendly Gardening** - project of Brighton & Hove Food Partnership with cookery & gardening activities for people with mild dementia. More information on 01273-431700 or helen@bhfood.org.uk
- **Age UK** - Petition to oppose the Government's proposals to pass on responsibility for paying Attendance Allowance to Councils.
- **Mayors Office** - Brighton Housing Trust dinner on the 8th October to fundraise. Tickets cost £50 a head. Contact Sara Peskett on 01273 326844
- **Hangleton & Knoll** - Annual 50+ event on Monday 3rd October from 1 to 4 pm at St Richards Community Centre, Egremont Road, Hove.

Newsletters

- **Healthwatch** - Press Release re CQC Inspection. Report on OPC website as hospital deemed inadequate. Also press release about Patient Transport failings and the Strategic & Transformation Plans calling for local discussions.
- **NPC** - Newsletter for September circulated. An NPC Transport Conference is being held on the 22nd September. A Parliamentary lobby on the 2nd November.
- **Community Works** - Regular newsletter. Details of members conference on the 13th October around themes of community cohesion and community safety.

- **British Heart Foundation** - Active ageing information for Older People's Day events.

238 MEMBERS' UPDATE

- 238.1 FT has attended meetings of the National Pensioners' Convention, the Pensioners' Association, Blue Plaque unveilings, Age UK, the Brighton University Research Group, and the Pavilion Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG) "Eat Well, Keep Well" event.
- 238.2 NG has been busy helping organise a health forum event, developing a joint PPG for the four surgeries covering Hangleton, with the local community garden, and organising coach trips.
- 238.3 JH is still recovering from his recent fall. He has nothing but praise for the treatment he has received from NHS staff, but nothing but contempt for the actions of Southern Water for are still refusing to admit liability for the trip hazard, although they have now repaired it. JH is seeking compensation for local NHS services rather than for himself.
- 238.4 CV has met with the Chair of Healthwatch to talk about Delayed Transfer of Care (i.e. delays in people being discharged from hospital beds). CV has also attended meetings of the South East National Pensioners Convention and Grey Matters meetings.
- 238.5 JE has recently been on holiday and has consequently not attended as many meetings as usual.
- 238.6 MB has worked in several of the 18 senior housing schemes visited so far as part of Digital Brighton & Hove inclusion project. MB has also attended the SEEFA meeting at Dept of Health to give evidence towards the forthcoming National Carers Strategy. MB has recently worked with Albion in the Community on a cancer awareness day. In addition, MB continues to update the OPC web pages.

239 OLDER PEOPLE'S FESTIVAL

240 DIGITAL BRIGHTON FESTIVAL

241 SUSTAINABILITY & TRANSFORMATION PLAN (STP)

- 241.1 This item was presented by Brian Doughty, Acting Director of Adult Social Care (ASC), Brighton & Hove City Council; and by John Child, Chief Operating Officer, Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).
- 241.2 JC explained that Sustainability & Transformation Plans (STP) have been introduced as part of NHS Planning Guidance to implement the NHS Five Year Forward Vision. Local NHS bodies and councils are mandated to work together to develop STPs at a sub-regional 'footprint' level. To date, a local STP footprint has been agreed (Sussex and East Surrey), a diagnostic process has been undertaken, and co-working arrangements have been developed.
- 241.3 The STP footprint has been further split into three localities. Brighton & Hove CCG area is grouped together with High Weald Lewes Havens, Horsham & Mid Sussex, Crawley,

and East Surrey CCG areas. (There are also West and East Sussex localities.) This grouping reflects the catchments of Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust (BSUH) and Surrey & Sussex Healthcare Trust (SASH) for the acute hospitals at Brighton, Hayward's Heath and Redhill. A place-based plan is being developed for this locality. This is not a wholly new piece of work: it builds on existing local integration plans and recognises significant commonalities across the area – e.g. everyone has similar workforce problems.

- 241.4 STP governance is a complex issue and this is now starting to be addressed. Local authorities are fully engaged with this process – for example, Health & Wellbeing Board Chairs have begun meeting jointly to look at this and other issues.
- 241.5 Integration is about reducing barriers and minimising overlaps between health and social care. This may well entail pooling funding and staff in the longer term. This is not a very short term project, although full plans for integration must be in place by 2020. BD stressed that it was important to recognise that we are not starting from scratch: there is a long history of integrated NHS and social care working in Brighton & Hove.
- 241.6 In response to a question about public engagement/consultation, JC stated that STP plans would go through the normal public consultation and engagement processes of STP member organisations once there are clear decisions on which to consult. There is currently no set date by which detailed plans must be ready for public consultation: although there are the October 2016 dates for submission.
- 241.7 In response to a question on action to tackle delayed transfers of care (DToC), BD told members that DToC was a local priority and much good work is taking place, such as the Discharge to Assess and Hospital at Home initiatives. There is no issue with timeliness of social workers assessments, all of which are up to date. However, there are significant issues with the lack of local care home places and home care availability. Commissioners have attempted to support the local care home market, and things have recently stabilised, but this will remain a major risk going forward. JC clarified that work on DToC was formerly overseen by the multi-partner System Resilience Group (SRG). The Department of Health has recently required that SRGs be re-badged as A&E Delivery Boards, with a particular focus on improving hospital A&E services.
- 241.8 BD explained that social care commissioners contract manage care providers, the great bulk of whom are and have long been independent sector organisations. The whole sector is regulated and inspected by the Care Quality Commission (CQC). JC added that clinicians also have a duty to feedback any concerns they may have about the environment that their clients live in.
- 241.9 In answer to a query about whether it was realistic to expect STP areas to clear provider deficits of hundreds of millions of pounds by 2020, JC replied that STP areas are charged with developing credible plans to address deficits; these plans will not necessarily lead to zero deficits by 2020. STPs are required to work within the current NHS and care funding envelopes and local authorities and NHS organisations have no influence on the level of Government funding they receive. If people feel strongly that funding should be increased, then this is something to lobby local MPs about.

241.10 JC told members that the STP is not just about reducing deficits: it must also improve quality and support social care. A framework for measuring quality improvements will be developed. This will draw on contract key performance indicators (kpi), but will focus more on achieving better outcomes for people than on hitting process targets. BD added that annual user surveys are likely to be integral to measuring quality.

241.11 In response to a question about NHS capital investments, JC told members that there is very significant current capital investment in city services, particularly in terms of the '3Ts' development of the Royal Sussex County Hospital. There is also a commitment to re-invest proceeds from the sale of city NHS estates into Brighton & Hove services. The position on additional NHS capital funding to implement STP plans is not currently clear.

241.12 The Chair thanked JC and BD for their contributions. Both speakers stressed that they would be happy to come back to the OPC to talk about Brighton & Hove integrated care plans.

242 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

242.1 There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at Time Not Specified

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

OLDER PEOPLE'S COUNCIL - OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE.

The Policy Resources & Growth Committee on the 9th February 2017 decided to discontinue BHCC support for the OPC from April 2018, in accordance with a staged process.

The report proposed a transitional period to move to a self-supporting model with access to Hove Town Hall to meeting rooms during 2017/18. The decision would also remove any support for elections, administration, meeting rooms, annual report etc from April 2018.

The OPC wrote to all Councillors prior to the Committee decision outlining our objections. Members of the OPC attended the PR&G meeting and argued against the reports recommendations to the Committee. It is difficult to see how any further lobbying will achieve a change of view by the administration, particularly as two of the three political parties voted to cease support to the OPC. OPC officers have written to the Chief Executive protesting our situation but he did not wish to engage further rather referring us back to politicians stating that the BHCC is not abolishing the OPC.

The administrative support provided to the OPC has gradually diminished in recent years. We have provided our own resources for analysis of the budget, writing to members and organisations, organising meetings outside the formal committees, drafting and printing information, establishing and maintaining the web site, etc.

However, the role of the OPC and its objects as set out in the Constitution are to “inform the policy and decision making of BHCC including service development & delivery and resource allocation with regard to the matters that impact on the the quality of life and opportunities available for older people living in the Brighton & Hove area.” Without the support and co-operation of BHCC it is difficult to see how this remit could continue.

Transition

The officers of the OPC met with Emma McDermott from Communities & Equalities on the 31st July. She suggested that we could buy in some consultancy support to assist us to decide how we might restructure for the future. This could be drawn down from the transitional funding. She suggested that we could be assisted in deciding what an alternative structure that attracted more older people might look like. Community Works was suggested as the possible conduit for this work. We made clear that there are mixed views on the OPC about a possible future without support but agreed to take this proposal back to the OPC for discussion.

OPC Recommendations

OPC members have discussed the options for the future and support **Option 1** below.

There was a view that we should explore all options for continuation in order to ensure that older people have a voice in relation to how the City's resources are spent and services are provided. This would involve continuing current representation such as that on the Health & Overview Scrutiny Committee, Age Friendly City Steering Group, and more recently with regard to Safeguarding.

Options for the Future

1. The OPC meets with relevant voluntary sector organisations (such as Age UK and Community Works) in order to explore creating a newly reconstructed organisation. This would involve drawing down some of the transitional funding to identify administrative support, funding for the future, meeting venues, a new constitution etc. As part of the process adopt a new constitution and structure of representation. This could consider drawing in, perhaps by affiliation, any current older people's organisations that wish to join, to create a new and different structure of representation and activity.
2. Continue as we are until March 2018 meanwhile contacting Councillors to protest about the decision. We would need to decide whether it was likely that they would change the decision and who would undertake this work.
3. Dissolution - Para 16 of the OPC Constitution allows for a simple majority of the OPC to decide on the grounds of expense or otherwise to dissolve. The OPC would then have to send a report to the Council requesting agreement in writing to the dissolution.

OPC September 2017