

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS HUB WORKING GROUP
VIA TEAMS**

13 October 2022

PRESENT

Councillors Alex Wagner, Rosemary Dartnall, Kate Halliday (Chair), David Vasmer, Chris Lemon, Pam Moseley

IN ATTENDANCE

Ruth Jones (Office Manager)

APOLOGIES

Amanda Spencer (Deputy Town Clerk)

18/22 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Twin hatted Councillors declared an interest in matters affecting Shropshire Council and the Town Council.

19/22 MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

The minutes were noted and agreed.

20/22 MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising.

21/22 ACTIONS FOLLOWING EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AND REFERENCE GROUP MEETING

Councillor Halliday asked Councillors for their thoughts on the Extraordinary Council Meeting.

The Following Views Were Expressed

- Meeting went well with interesting points raised. It provided an opportunity for the public to voice their concerns. However, presentations were too long and repetitive, not enough interaction with the public.
- There were a few disconnects as the Director of Delivery & Transformation referred on numerous occasions that the meeting was prior to the Reference Group Meeting. They held their hands up to the poor listening exercise, even though data is being used to form the proposal and no alternative proposals have been provided.
- The PID was only published prior to the meeting, which could have affected the discussion.

- The ICS could have been more open and transparent, as options for alternative sites are being glossed over and there are no formal presentations for another option.
- Engagement could have been improved as a number of residents did not have an opportunity to attend.
- Several group members expressed disappointment that the only representative from Shropshire Council was the Executive Director of Public Health.
- ICS have invested financially into progressing the hub and therefore not considering alternate options. Currently the only alternatives have been public suggestions

Councillor Halliday suggested that the working group invite NHSE to meet with them to discuss their funding for estates with an invitation to the ICS, particularly as the questions regarding refusing to fund individual practices was not answered.

Councillor Vasmer left the meeting.

Councillor Halliday commented that legal advice should be sought on the processes.

Office Manager commented that this would have to be undertaken by Shropshire Council.

Councillor Dartnall commented that Claremont Surgery are consulting with their patients and advised that Darwin Health Ltd was formed in 2018 and now incorporates 12 practices.

Councillor Bentick advised that the Primary Care Network is responsible for 1 third of the Shropshire population, equating to 130,000 residents. Councillor Bentick agrees that Shropshire Council should obtain legal advice on the consultation process for moving primary care to a hub

Discussions took place over the formal question for submission to Shropshire Council. Councillor Halliday confirmed the following would be submitted to Shropshire Council on behalf of the Working Group:

On 4th Oct Shrewsbury Town Council (STC) held an extraordinary meeting to discuss the proposed health and wellbeing hub. The meeting was very well attended by Shrewsbury residents, many of whom expressed concerns about the proposals and are worried that with such a large change to GP services locally the only option to be presented at the consultation stage in April '23 will be to co-locate 6 practices together into one hub. STC Health and Wellbeing Hub working group were disappointed that there was no representation from Shropshire Council other than Public Health, when there were issues of planning and travel that the public asked questions about. Given the concerns of residents about the proposals and the engagement process:

- a) Will Shropshire Council investigate the legality of the engagement exercise to date, in accordance with the Gunning Principles?*
- b) Will Shropshire Council actively investigate other funding options to support primary care estates with the practices involved in the hub proposals?*

*Councillor Kate Halliday, on behalf of the Health and Wellness Hub Working Group,
Shrewsbury Town Council*

Councillor Halliday also added that the ICS should receive a follow-up letter from Shrewsbury Town Council outlining the motion which was agreed at the extraordinary meeting

Councillor Dartnall raised that other Authorities should be consulted where practices have been merged.

Councillor Bentick and Dartnall commented that the ICS must be adhering to the Gunning Principles.

RECOMMENDED and agreed by group:

- (i) That the Working Group submit the agreed question to Shropshire Council Cabinet,
- (ii) Shrewsbury Town Council will issue a follow-up letter to the ICS, based on the motion from the Extraordinary meeting
- (iii) That the Working Group requests a meeting with NHS England, and the ICS
- (iv) That Councillor Dartnall liaises with other Authorities who are in the Cavell pilots

22/22 FUTURE MEETING DATES

Thursday 17th November – 9am, via Teams