

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL**

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

**17 November 2022**

**PRESENT**

Councillors Bernie Bentick, Rosemary Dartnall, Kate Halliday (Chair), David Vasmer, Chris Lemon, Pam Moseley

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Helen Ball and Amanda Spencer

**APOLOGIES**

There were none.

**23/22 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

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

**24/22 MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes were noted and agreed.

**25/22 MATTERS ARISING**

All matters arising were contained within the agenda of the meeting.

**26/22 UPDATE ON QUESTIONS ASKED TO SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL CABINET**

The Chair updated the group on issues that had been raised by both her and Councillor Bentick at Shropshire Council's Health & Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee. She had raised the issue of a legal challenge being brought to the ICS regarding the Health and Wellbeing Hub and reported that the matter had not at least been rejected out of hand.

Councillor Bentick added that he had raised a number of issues with Gareth Robinson but that they hadn't yet been answered. He would circulate a copy of these to the group after the meeting. The Chair added that Gareth Robinson had said that the hub would provide additional services for the whole of Shropshire which had the potential to pull NHS staff away from rural areas. She added that the upcoming meeting of HASC had been cancelled.

The Chair also updated the group that she had written to Gareth Robinson following the Extraordinary meeting of Full Council on 4 October 2022. Amanda Spencer said that she would circulate this letter to all after the meeting.

The Group then had a discussion about whether any of them had been successful in identifying residents in their wards who were in receipt of universal credit and might be prepared to undertake a legal challenge. No one had been identified so far but Councillor Bentick agreed to contact David Sandbach for support.

There was a discussion about which residents would be eligible for Legal Aid and the role the Town Council would have in any such challenge. It was agreed that the challenge would best come from a group of residents but that the Town Council would not be able to get directly involved.

Councillor Lemon noted that it may be easier to find residents who wanted to present a challenge once a site had been agreed upon.

Helen Ball also offered to contact the town clerks in the areas of the other five Cavell Hubs. The group agreed that this would be really helpful.

**RESOLVED:**

- Councillor Bentick to contact David Sandbach regarding campaigns in other pilot sites.
- Helen Ball to contact the town clerks where Cavell Hubs had been opened for their feedback on the developments.

**27/22 UPDATE ON LETTER TO NHSE**

The Chair updated the group that she had approached Estates at NHS England (NHSE) asking if they would be willing to meet to discuss the proposed hub but they had declined saying that the national team looks to keep itself removed from local issues and decision making and that discussions should happen at a local level.

Councillor Bentick asked if there were other parts of NHSE which may be happy to meet to discuss the issue. The Chair said that she could send a similar invitation to the one already sent to NHSE but she suspected she would get the same answer.

Councillor Bentick added that Gareth Robinson had said that funding was only available for a single hub but that this was a discrepancy with other information they had learned. It would be helpful to find out what funding actually is available.

Helen Ball reported that it looked as if the funding for the Plymouth Cavell Hub had been withdrawn and asked if it would be helpful if officers drafted a letter to the Secretary of State for Health & Social Care regarding funding for Cavell Hubs.

Councillor Bentick also raised a concern about why Shrewsbury had not been included in diagnostic hub plans. Councillor Vasmer added that originally plans for the hub had included a long list of other services that might be available. It would be useful to raise this now with the ICS. Councillor Dartnall said that she had asked this question but she hadn't yet received a reply on the issue.

**RESOLVED:**

- Helen Ball to draft a letter to the Secretary of State for Health & Social Care regarding funding for Cavell Hubs, which would be circulated to the group for approval beforehand.

## **28/22 UPDATE ON LETTER TO ICS**

The Chair confirmed that the ICS had agreed to meet with them and Amanda Spencer said she would contact Emma Pyrah to arrange a date. Preferably this would be for a Thursday meeting. The working group agreed that they would like a pre-meeting before this took place.

### **RESOLVED:**

- Amanda Spencer to contact Emma Pyrah to arrange a meeting for the working group with representatives from the ICS.

### **NEXT STEPS**

It was agreed that the next step would be to hold a meeting with the ICS, ideally before Christmas.

### **29/22 FUTURE MEETING DATES**

To be confirmed.