

Minutes of General Meeting

Date	Tuesday 2 nd Dec 14
Time	10.00am to 12.00pm
Venue	Stoke Town Hall

Agenda topic	Action
<p>Attendees and Apologies Present:</p> <p>John Beech (Chair) Andrew Pickard (NHS England) Geoff Bryan (Deputy Chair) Pam Bryan (Secretary) Stephanie Wood (Deputy Secretary) Winston Green (Treasurer) John Burgess (Deputy Treasurer) Phil Corrigan (Sentinel) Tracie Kirkham Philip Woodward Brian Turnock Mick Jones Barry Simpson Brian Turner Bev Raftery (Age UK) Stewart Barker Alan Mountford Alan Dutton (councillor)</p>	<p>Apologies Lesley Smith Alan Rose Mike & Pat Dixon Tristram Hunt MP Joan Walley MP Rob Ffello MP Pat Layland Val Turner Dave Sanzeri Debbie Wheldon (councillor)</p>

<p>1. Andrew Pickard Pharmacy Advisor NHS England) The content of the Andrew's explanation as to why medicine shortages occur is included with these minutes as members were amazed at the complexity of the history leading to the shortages we have today and the efforts taken by pharmacists to overcome the problem and thought it was worth having a copy of the talk in full. Recommendations to ensure a regular supply of all medications are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Order repeat medicines at least 5-7 days before you are due to run out. • If on specialist medication, contact your pharmacy and ask them to order your medications in advance. • Arrange for your pharmacy to collect your prescription from the surgery, and confirm with them when it is ready to be collected or delivered. Some pharmacies can send you a text message. • Provide the pharmacy with a contact number so you can be notified of any supply problems and when stock becomes available. • Do not over order or hoard medicines as this only adds to the supply problem. • Communicate your needs to the pharmacy, so if it takes you a while to get to the door to accept a delivery let the pharmacy know so the driver knows to wait. • Some pharmacies do a time slot delivery. Ask if this is possible. <p>Andrew explained why the shortages occur and more importantly why this situation has</p>	
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been allowed to continue. Basically because the Government has no evidence that these shortages cause patient harm they have not done anything to improve the supply or restrict the sale of drugs from this country to abroad. The comment was made that if you do not look for, record or investigate shortages you will not find the evidence. Dead people don't complain. It was suggested that the Human Rights Act gives the right to life and these shortages could be a breach of that Act
 Pam will ask for help with this from Healthwatch and Andrew will email Pam the contact details of the Government people dealing with this. Members are asked to email Pam with details of any problems they have had caused by shortages.

Andrew
 Pickard
 Pam B
 All

Minutes of last meeting were signed as a true record.

2. Matters Arising from Minutes

Chiropody Brian is still trying to get answers to the problems associated with the time between appointments and will update members at the next meeting.

Brian T

Winton House Capita have promised the improvements to the building will be carried out by the end of Dec. Members will check next year and report back with an update on the parking issue.

JB PB

UHNS Court Case Update Unity Law, who are handling this case have appointed a new lead person.

UHNS now Royal Stoke University Hospital have started work on a new car park near the A34 and have appointed Arups, a firm of consultants to do a complete review of parking at the hospital and suggest improvements. STAND will be consulted during this process.

Tontine Street Kerb Edges Terry was not available to give the update so Pam read out Rob Fiello's letter regarding this issue. The Council are going to re examine this problem.

Mobility Scooter Access in Meir Jennifer and Pam had a meeting with Carl B from the Highways dept. And outlined the problems. He promised to get back to Jennifer with a plan of what will be possible to resolve the problems. Jennifer will update members next time.

JP

Pavement Obstructions and Matthew Ellis The obstructions are getting steadily worse and members are looking forward to Matthew's Visit at our next meeting on 10th Feb 15.

All

Members were asked to email Pam photos of vehicles causing obstruction on the pavement so she can compile a report ready for Matthew's visit.

Pedestrian Access Meeting John explained that there were very real problems around disabled people being able to access certain pedestrian areas. He will set up a meeting next year so we can discuss this with the Council Officers.

Pam

JB

Trade Waste Bins Blocking Disabled Bays in Burslem Jennifer had taken this up with Petronella Yearsley and action had been promised, but Councillor Alan Dutton said that they had not yet been moved. He will look into this and report back to Pam by email.

Alan D

3. Donations

Unite Union £30 Willfield Camera Club £2

4. AOB

Winston reported the difficulties around getting from a disabled car park and into the Regent Theatre. Buses driving along the pedestrian area were causing a safety hazard for people in wheelchairs.

The hotline number to report vehicles causing problems was kindly supplied by Michelle from Shopmobility 01782 237999 All members are recommended to use this if they see these problems.

Date of Next General Meetings 10th Feb 2015 and 14th April

Les will you please book a room for these dates

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