

## Minutes of LOC meeting Tuesday 28th June 2022 (Virtual Meeting)

Present: Matt Bellamy, Alvaro Borges, Amy Clarke, Nigel Harris, Dave Jeavons, Carole Jenkin, Sid Maher, Ian Shapcott, Ankur Trivedi

### Apologies

Apologies had been received from Adrian Street.

### Declarations of conflicts of interest

Amy let the committee know that she is now a partner at Smith and Swepson and will be becoming a Contractor in the near future. She will confirm this with Adrian when it occurs.

### Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last Committee Meeting were approved.

### Matters Arising and Action Points

#### *Action Points from last meeting*

i.	Posters for AGM	Completed
ii	Confirm Strategy Day date	Completed
iii	LOCSU non-NHS practice advise to Dropbox	Completed
iv	GOC re CPD account	Completed
v	Glaucoma OSCE/FB Workshop survey	Ongoing
vi	Update expenses policy	Completed
vii	AGM Invite	Completed

- i. Sid has distributed the posters to most Cheltenham-based practices. He received a positive response. There is some lack of awareness about the LOC, mainly within the multiples. Distribution of posters to the rest of the county to be shared by the committee dependent on location. <sup>i</sup>
- ii. Date confirmed as Tuesday September 6<sup>th</sup>. Matt to look for options for venue. <sup>ii</sup>
- v. Numbers were collected at the AGM. The Googleform survey may have become corrupted and could not be completed by some. Alvaro to re-send. <sup>iii</sup>

### Welcome New Members

Alvaro formally welcomed Carole and Matt as new members of the committee and Dave as a guest to the meeting.

### Election of Officers

Alvaro agreed to stand as Chair and was unanimously re-elected. He has made it clear that succession planning is essential as it is his intention to stand down from the role next year.

Nigel was unanimously re-elected to the role of Treasurer.

Adrian has not indicated a wish to step down so he has been provisionally re-elected as Secretary in his absence. Confirmation to be made at next meeting.

### Treasurers Report

Nigel reported that he has already received notification that the reduction in levy from 1.5% to 1% approved at the AGM is being actioned. Confirmation will be possible when the next levy reports are received. It was felt that a notification to the community via WhatsApp would be appropriate, once the reduction is confirmed.

The small sum in the Business account has been transferred to the Treasurer's account and the Business account is now closed. See account balances Appendix 1.

The transfer of funds to the Homeless Project as agreed at the AGM is pending while the most appropriate way of donating the money is identified.

There is another LOCSU Treasurers' session on July 7<sup>th</sup>. Discussion is likely to revolve around the need for LOC Officers to pay National Insurance. Nigel will report back at our next meeting.

Alvaro commented that he is aware that significant funding for Higher Qualifications has been made available in the Midlands region by Health Education England and this may be an avenue to pursue for the Southwest region. There is a feeling that such fund allocation may be related to the 'Levelling Up' policy which might limit the chances of success for our region.

### Chair's Update

Alvaro reported that challenges have arisen in the Low Vision project around the need to show the CCG that the project will be cost effective. Sid will be attending the next meeting and will give feedback after that.

The Community Ophthalmic Link is starting rollout to county practices.

Alvaro has attended a LOCSU Southwest region meeting concerning the GOC Call for Evidence on the Opticians' Act. It is important that the views of our members are known. Alvaro will circulate a survey countywide to get responses.<sup>iv</sup> After collation of the results the LOC will review at an extra meeting<sup>v</sup> and prepare a submission on behalf of Gloucestershire LOC. This does not preclude individuals from submitting their own views directly.

The Southwest Eyecare Transformation Programme continues to hold views opposed to the service commissioning system as practised in Gloucestershire and elsewhere. Alvaro continues to resist the move to a regional based system which may result in the loss of currently funded services.

Ian to circulate Locsu list of acronyms to assist new (and more experienced) members.<sup>vi</sup>

### PES Update

Ankur reported that the new contract for PES services in Gloucestershire is close to completion and is for 3 years with a possible 6 month extension. It is hoped that this will include an automatic annual fee uplift but this is not yet confirmed. This is very positive compared with the Southwest Region's view of the use of commissioning services mentioned in Alvaro's report.

A complaint has arisen from the Children's Vision Service when a practice stopped providing the service without notifying Ankur and a child was booked in by mistake. This matter has been resolved satisfactorily. Ankur will share the full report with the LOC when it is finished.

PES have appointed a new ophthalmologist to support glaucoma oversight. Numbers currently in the community OHT monitoring service are very low due to a combination of patient discharge from the Trust and transfer of patients to Newmedica. Any expansion of the community service would require sufficient volume of patients requiring monitoring and an indication from practitioners of interest in providing the service.

Tetbury Hospital have a new CEO. This may be an opportunity to re-visit the discharge of first and second eye post-op cataracts to the community.<sup>vii</sup>

### AGM Review

It was felt that the AGM was a success. The ability to meet face-to-face was greatly appreciated. Updates by Karen Gennard on the Homeless Project and Tony Burke on the Community Ophthalmic Link were valued as was the cataract CPD presentation by Will Dean. Eschenbach kindly provided some sponsorship and their stand was busy with particular interest in larger digital magnification devices.

### Any Other Business

Ian requested Carole and Matt send a short biography for the LOC website.<sup>viii</sup>

### Date of next meetings - Zoom

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 7pm – GOC Call for Evidence Review Meeting  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 7pm

## Action Points

i.	Contact Sid re availability to deliver posters	All
ii	Research Strategy Day Venue	Matt
iii	Re-send Glaucoma OSCE/FB Workshop survey	Alvaro
iv	Circulate GOC Call for Evidence Survey Countywide	Alvaro
v	Book Zoom Meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> July 7pm	Alvaro
vi	Share LOCSU Jargon Buster document	Ian
vii	Arrange meeting with Tetbury Hospital new CEO	Alvaro/Ankur?
vii	Send short biography details to Ian for website	Carole, Matt

## Appendix 1

The screenshot displays the Lloyds Bank online banking interface. At the top, the user is identified as Mr N. Harris, last logged in on 26 June 22 at 12:34 PM. The account is for County & City of Gloucester Optical Comm. Two account balances are shown: Treasurers Account (£83,790.81) and BB INST ONLINE (£6,613.30). The main section shows details for the Treasurers Account, including the current balance of £83,790.81 and available funds. A sidebar on the right contains links for CONTACT US, HELP & SUPPORT, and a search for pending transactions. The bottom of the screen shows a Windows taskbar with the date 29/06/2022 and time 19:08.

