

Minutes of LOC meeting Tuesday 24th May 2022 – via Zoom

Present: Matt Bellamy, Alvaro Borges, Amy Clarke, Nigel Harris, Ian Shapcott, Adrian Street & Ankur Trivedi

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Sid Maher

2. Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no new declarations of interest

3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last Committee Meeting were approved.

4. Matters Arising and Action Points

Alvaro welcomed Matt Bellamy to his first meeting and notified the Committee that Clare Griffin had decided to step down permanently.

Action Points from last meeting

i.	E-mail text to ABDO	Completed
li	Promotional poster for practices staff	Completed
iii	OSCE interest survey	Ongoing
iv	AGM survey	Completed
v	Dates for Strategy Meeting	Ongoing
vi	Book Cheltenham Chase for AGM	Completed
vii	Invite for Krishna	Completed
viii	Meeting with Pria re LV Service	Completed
ix	Contact LMC re stroke referrals	Ongoing
x	Contact LOCSU re secure section on web-site	Completed

i. Adrian had received 4 requests from DOs to be added to the database and had updated accordingly. He had also noted that some of the sheets seemed to have lost the table formatting which he would try to sort out. Adrian also requested any information for details of 'others' that would be helpful for the rest of the committee, e.g. people regularly referred to at the CCG.

Alvaro noted that Armstrong and North's practice in Stroud was to be incorporated into to Stroud Vision Centre.

ii. Sid was hoping to visit soe practices to deliver the posters, it was suggested that some copies be taken to the AGM for distribution ⁱ

v. Max was not available until July. Adrian suggested the 1st week of September to avoid the holidays and Ankur felt it would be better to wait until after the ICS had officially formed in July. The week of the 5th or 26th September was to be confirmed. ⁱⁱ

vi. Approximately 35 people would be attending the meeting, it was agreed to try round tables with a sit-down meal rather than a buffet and then rows of seats. It was also agreed it would be a face-to-face meeting only.

x. No useful advice had been forthcoming

5. Treasurer's Report

Nigel reported that the account balance was still very healthy – see Appendix 1, though the AGM still needed to be paid for. Nigel also noted that Adrian was now a second signatory and has access to the accounts.

Nigel was planning to use simplified accounts that had been suggested at the LOCSU Treasurer's Meeting and also needed to rationalise the three bank accounts into 1 and remove the Voluntary Levy – as had been discussed it had been suggested to donate the money to Gloucestershire VCHP which would need to be agreed at the AGM.

Advice from LOCSU had been received regarding non-NHS practices, Adrian would add the document to Dropbox for future reference. ⁱⁱⁱ

Nigel asked whether a registration fee with the GOC as a CPD provider needed to be paid again? Adrian would contact the GOC and ask for the account to be changed from Three Counties Optometry Society to Gloucestershire LOC. ^{iv}

While discussing CPD Alvaro had received an offer to provide CPD accreditation for events for £100 which could be helpful in the future.

Newmedica would be happy to host Glaucoma OSCE and/or a FB Workshop, Amy noted that Worcestershire had assembled a FB pack for practitioners and had some left over which could possibly be passed on to Gloucestershire. It was agreed something would need to be organised after the AGM and Alvaro would set up a survey to gauge interest. ^v

It was agreed Nigel would propose a reduction in the levy to 1% at the AGM and also inform the attendees that the Committee can increase or decrease the levy by up to 0.5% outside the AGM without having to call an EGM.

6. Expenses

Alvaro reported that other LOCs remunerated members at a higher level, Gloucestershire was at the lower end of the scale. Nigel suggested an annual increase in future, Alvaro noted that some areas are considering monthly reimbursement based on the average time spent rather than an hourly rate and that LOCSU were suggesting that LOC Officers should perhaps be employees. A consultation was in progress and Alvaro would report as soon as any further information was available.

It was agreed to increase the hourly rate to £60.00 and the meeting fee to £90.00, the daily rate of £350.00 would remain unchanged. Adrian would update the policy on Dropbox. ^{vi}

7. Chair's Report

Alvaro reported that the VCHP clinic in Gloucester had been awarded an NHS contract and was up and running.

Ankur and Alvaro had attended a CPG meeting and the funding for the Community Low Vision scheme had been agreed but it may not get signed off if financial savings cannot be shown. Alvaro commented that the CCG was running a £20m deficit which has focussed attention on cost savings. Alvaro would keep pushing the scheme as the business case was ready.

The Community Ophthalmic Link trial was progressing well at Norville Independent Eyecare, Matt reported the Optometrists really like it and it had saved approximately 20 referrals in six weeks. 5 more practices from around the County were joining the trial shortly.

Somerset had been chosen to pilot the possible EERS, it was to be a very small initial test with just two or three practices involved. Ankur stated that many areas use already Opera and felt that combined with the COL this would provide a reasonable alternative to ERS.

Alvaro stated that Gloucestershire had appointed Graham Mennie and Andy McNaught as leads for the South West Eyecare Transformation Programme, Alvaro was concerned there was no Primary Eyecare representation. Alan Davies, the CPG Patient Representative, was also frustrated that there was no patient representation. Alvaro had e-mailed Kerry to suggest the leads should be the CPG Chair (Graham Mennie), someone from Secondary Care, the Private Providers plus a Primary Care representative. The response had been positive and Kerry would discuss the position with Zoe.

8. PES Update

Ankur reported that the CCG had issued a new Community Eyecare Contract to last for 10 months until April 2023 to allow some time for the ICS to settle in.

9. AGM

Alvaro asked if it would be possible to ask for sponsors for the AGM? It was agreed that it would be appropriate for the AGM or any other event as long as it would be open to all relevant suppliers.

Alvaro, Nigel and Adrian would arrange for a meeting to finalise the agenda and arrangements and Alvaro would send a formal invitation Countywide.

10. Any Other Business

Ian was planning to do some more updates on the web-site and requested any suggestions for anything that needed to be changed.

Adrian had been approached by Julian Wiles who was offering a spectacle lens CPD event. If required.

Amy asked if it was appropriate for Carole Jenkin to join the committee as both work for the same practice. It was agreed this wasn't an issue.


11. Date of Next Meeting

AGM – Wednesday 15th June 2022



Committee – Tuesday 28th June 2022




Action Points

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

LLOYDS BANK  [Our Products and Services](#) Co

Mr N. Harris
Last logged on 16 May 22 at 10:46 PM

County & City of Gloucester Optical Comm  [Your accounts](#) 

Treasurers Account 30-95-72 02256279 £ 82,284.06 	BB INST ONLINE 30-95-72 48926168 £ 6,613.24 	BUS BANK INSTANT 30-95-72 07659800 £ 729.75 
--	---	---