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**MINUTES of the ESSEX LOC**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Held virtually on

**23rd September 2020 at 6.30pm**

**Present:**

Officers: Sheila Purser (SAP) Chris Rushen CR (Vice Chair) Emma Spofforth ES (Secretary) Kennedy Rath KR (Treasurer)

Committee members: David Dixon (D2), Maggie Glover (MG), Bhups Battu (BB), Binal Patel (BP), Kevin Lewis (KL), Mark Carhart (MC), Michelle Barrick (MB), Mike Daly (MD), Reshma Patel (RP), Sara Porter (SP), Tracey Kinns (TK), Nick Hagan (NH)

Lisa Luxton, Manfred Pieper, Max Halford, Richard Allen, Rupel Lovell-Patel, Bruce Evans, Carol McKee, Diana Graves, Joanne Juniper, Alan Mercer, Andrew Chenery, Philip Read

In attendance:Katie Kingcott KK – Minutes

**20/36 Chairman’s welcome**

By Sheila Purser. Thanks to everyone for joining the AGM this evening. D2 is overseeing IT tonight. Thank you to everyone for working so hard during this pandemic. The LOC is here if any help is needed.

**20/37 Apologies for absence**

None from the committee. Amandeep Matharu is unable to attend.

**20/38 Minutes of last AGM**

Held on 5th June 2019.

Q - MG: spotted a correction on page one of minutes. SAP clarified it was an error which was corrected.

Poll via Zoom to agree on minutes from last years AGM – results 91% yes, 9% abstained (due to not attending last year’s AGM)

No amendments to be made.Signed by Sheila Purser and accepted as true record.

**20/39 Matters arising** **from minutes**

None

**20/40 Chairman’s report**

Available as separate document as an enclosure which was distributed by e-mail prior to the AGM.

Report screen shared on zoom.

No questions.

**20/41 Secretary's report**

Available as separate document as an enclosure which was distributed by e-mail prior to the AGM.

Report screen shared on zoom.

Nothing to add to report. Well done to everyone for carrying on through this pandemic. Everyone encouraged to contact the LOC if any help needed.

Referral quality – constant complaints from the hospital regarding this. All contractors please check all locums that work for you know where to refer to in your region.

Autumn CET – the LOC will not be running anything specifically. May well run a few in 2021 specific targeting events.

Committee is full for performers but there are a couple of spaces for contractors and co-op member. Please contact ES or SAP if interesting in joining the committee.

No questions on report.

**20/42 Treasurers Report**

Available as separate document as an enclosure which was distributed by e-mail prior to the AGM.

Report screen shared on zoom.

No questions. Can contact KR by email if any questions.

**20/43** **Statutory Levy**

Report screen shared on zoom.

Expectation was to reduce the levy by ¼% this year, however due to the pandemic the recommendation is to keep the levy the same as not sure know what is going to happen over the coming year.

KR proposes to keep stat levy as it is.

Online poll – ‘Do you approve the accounts for 2018-2019?’ Typo error on poll 2018-2019. D2 amended to 2019-2020. 100% yes.

Online poll – ‘The proposal is that we keep the Stat Levy unchanged at 1.5% and review again next year?’ Accept 96%, abstain 4%.

**20/44** **CCG area updates**.

Available as separate document as an enclosure which was distributed by e-mail prior to the AGM.

Report screen shared on zoom.

Q: What is the difference between Integrated Care System (ICS) and STP? A: Rupal Lovell-Patel – STP are sustainable partnerships – more health driven, bigger footprint. ICS have more financial control.

West Essex – intention to commission IOP repeat reading, post op cat service and Community Glaucoma Service (CGS). MG will be contacting people in due course.

North Essex – CGS being rolled out. Contact MG if interested.

Mid/South Essex – Nothing planned with Southend. Hope to work with Queens in Romford for South Essex patients in the near future. Post op cat service, hydroxychloroquine screening and CGS with them hopefully.

Q: In the report it states that the eye dept in Colchester is part of the main hospital, however it is still a separate building? A - ES: Not physically in the same building but still part of the hospital. CR adds its good for patients to know this.

ES is trying to develop a directory of which hospital’s offer which services. Maps to be added to this.

**20/45 PES Report**

Available as separate document as an enclosure which was distributed by e-mail prior to the AGM.

Report screen shared on zoom.

MG writes the PES reports.

SAP thanks practitioners who have cleared patients on the portal.

Q: How is MECS service working in West Essex? Logistics of how patient’s access it – do they need referral from other Optom not providing MECS? A - MG: If anyone turns up with MECS symptom you can signpost them to a MECS approved practice. If you are a MECS practice who can’t see them in the timescale then you must find them an appointment at another practice.

Triage form and list of MECS practitioners on the LOC website. Link shared in the chat box on zoom. Different versions for North to rest of Essex.

Q: IT – Is there going to be a switch from Optomanager? A: Yes – in development at the moment. Meeting tomorrow to discuss.

**20/46 LOCSU update**

Max Halford – Optical Lead from LOCSU for south west and south east.

Presentation shared via Zoom – LOCSU overview.

LOCSU is a support unit: trying to bring LOC’s together. Help includes PPE supply, NHS mail for all, CUES development. The new ‘people with learning disability pathway’.

LOCSU also fund WOPEC training modules.

NOC 2019 – LOCSU come up with action plan to support LOC’s. Set of tools for LOC to use, materials to support/engage with PCNs, new development around clinical pathways, case studies to share best practice, online web design for LOCs, resource library, needs analysis, commissioning and negotiation support, new training provision, student engagement, review of LOC constitution.

COVID 19 urgent eyecare service (CUES) due to continue past COVID.

National outpatient’s transformation plan – plan to avoid 30million unnecessary outpatient appointments.

People with learning disabilities – new pathway launched this week.

NOC this year will be virtual – end of November. Allows everyone who wishes to join can join – much more convenient.

Emma is a LOCSU board member for East of England.

Q - SAP: Are Optoms eligible for free flu jabs? A - Rupal Lovell Patel: This is a CCG derived plan. Nationally Optoms are not listed to get NHS funded flu jab, however this has been raised. Mid/South Essex CCG can have flu jab FOC – need to push with GP.

SAP thanks Binal for all her hard work – was optical lead for LOCSU in East of England. Recently stepped down.

**20/47 Rolling over of committee positions until 2021**

Normally the LOC would have asked for any interest in joining the committee at the AGM, however due to COVID this has been postponed until 2021. Lots of comms sent out asking if anyone would like to join. Proper elections will take place next year but if anyone is interested please contact ES. Need some more contractors on the committee.

SAP - Thanks to Steven Hui for all his hard work on the committee and as Communications leader. Resigned from committee last week due to work commitments.

**20/48 AOB**

No AOB on agenda.

Q: One of our Optoms saw on Optomanager that she needs to tick what tests she has done on MECS consultation, including OCT? A: MG - Comms sent out on 14th July to say OCT funding had been extended to end of August. This is not a new development of Optomanager. Practices that need to use OCT for diagnosis in Mid/South Essex will still get a fee for this.

Q - Diana Graves: There are two MECS practices based in Hertfordshire, can we refer to these? A: These practices can only see patients who have a GP in West Essex.

PPE – The LOC has been very lucky and been supplied lots of PPE. SAP/ES have some limited PPE left (masks/aprons/gloves) and hundreds of visors still left. Let SAP/ES/MG know if anything needed.

DSPT and IG – if you have an NHS email address you need to provide evidence by the end of the month (if had pre COVID). If recently had NHS email account you need to show evidence by end of next month.

Q - D2: In regard to NHS email address – is that for Practitioners or Contractors? A: Some practitioners have been given NHS email account. So yes both.

**20/49 Date of next LOC meeting**

Virtual meeting on Wednesday 7th October. Welcome to come to meetings - If anyone wants to be an observer let KK know in advance.

Meeting finished 20:15

Signed virtually

Chairman Sheila Purser

Sheila A Purser