

**Minutes of the RSCH Hospital Liaison Group Meeting
Held on Wednesday 15th January 2020 from 7pm
Audrey Emerton Building, Royal Sussex County Hospital**

Present:

Jacqueline Nowell (Chair)
5 Local Residents

Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals

Richard Beard, 3Ts Head of Communications & Engagement
Ali Jenkins, 3Ts Programme Administrator

Laing O'Rourke

Paul Kennard, Planning Manager LOR

Apologies:

Cllr Nancy Platts (Chair)
Duane Passman (BSUH Director of 3Ts)

Welcome and Introductions

1. Jacqueline Nowell welcomed everyone to the meeting and recorded the above apologies.

2. **Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting (9th October 2019) were agreed as accurate.

- 2.1 **Matters arising**

A local resident asked about the parking changes to Upper Abbey Road. Local residents have recently received a letter explaining the plans for the changes, but there was no start date for the work to take place. Richard explained that sending out the letters is the start of the process, and the work will follow in due course.

3. **Trust Development Update**

- 3.1 Richard gives the meeting an update on the other works being carried out around the trust, which involve the Millennium Building and the Children's Hospital.

The Millennium Building is progressing well. There is a mobile crane due on site in the coming weeks to lift some framework into place. This will be parked on the Hammerhead section of the North Service Road and will not have an impact on traffic flow.

The Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital work is still progressing.

4.0 3Ts main scheme update

4.1 Statement from Laing O'Rourke

Paul Kennard, Planning Manager for Laing O'Rourke (LO'R), gave an update on the progress of the Stage 1 building. There are less than 10 windows to be installed. The whole building will be fully watertight sometime towards the middle of summer 2020 with individual floors being ready for full internal fit out well before that date.

There is also some work to be carried out on the roof of the Stage 1 building where some of the plant equipment, such as air handling units and chillers, will be housed. The delivery of this equipment will require lane closures on Eastern Road on some weekend days over the next few months. All lane closures have been agreed with Brighton and Hove City Council, and traffic will be managed by LO'R staff. Communications will be sent out about the closures nearer the time.

The main internal work for the building will start on Level 4, and then move to Level 7 and Level 1. LOR are starting with these levels as they will house the more complex parts of the hospital. Work on the remaining floors will commence once the initial work is underway.

The Tower Cranes will start to come down over the next few months. The exact dates are dependent on how work progresses over the coming weeks/months.

4.2 Queries

A local resident asks why the South Service Road won't be re-opening once the internal areas of the building have been completed. Paul explained that this area is needed to help with getting equipment and machinery into the building, as there is a hoist in place at the rear of the building. Richard also explained that once the Stage 1 building is open, a lot of the facilities and maintenance functions, such as linen services, waste management and stores, will be moving into the building. This will relieve the pressure on a lot of areas that are housing the displaced services during the redevelopment.

A local resident asks if there will be any commercial units in the Stage 1 building. RB advises that this is certainly the plan, and there are areas of the building that have been designed with this in mind. There will be a food retail area on Level 1 (Eastern Road level), and a café/restaurant on Level 6. There is also the possibility of smaller stand-alone units in the future.

A local resident asks for clarification on why the crane removal schedule has changed from the original timeline that was communicated at the end of the summer. Paul explained that this was largely due to the weather, and pointed out that recently LOR have been losing 4 days a week where they cannot use the cranes because of wind.

Another local resident asked about the recent story on BBC news about a delay in the programme due to rusting windows and doors. Richard explains that whilst the programme is currently under review, and the completion date is expected to be extended, this is not due to issues with the windows and doors. The window frames are made from aluminium and are finished with a special coating which is designed to prevent corrosion on buildings located near to the sea. The doors have not rusted because there are simply no doors in the building, other than some temporary safety doors which LOR have installed that are made of wood.

A local resident raised a point about the noise that is created when the wind blows around the building. Paul suggested that this may be caused by one of two things. Firstly, it could be the wind blowing through the tower crane structures. This is a common occurrence, and will stop once the

cranes have been removed. Secondly, it could be from the wind blowing around the building. Because it is still an 'open' structure, the wind can get inside the building and create noise. There is also some temporary weather proofing in place that can make a noise when windy. This will also stop once the building is weather proof in the coming months.

5. Building Commissioning

- 5.1** Ali Jenkins updated the meeting on the plans for the building commissioning. One part of this would be the use of volunteers, and the Trust are keen to get interested local residents involved. More details of the volunteer scheme will be released in due course.

6. Any Other Business

- 6.1** The issue of the cigarette bins outside the Barry Building was raised as there are still problems with some of them. Richard advised that he has spoken with colleagues in the Estates team, and will speak with them again.

A local resident showed some pictures to the Chair of cars at a standstill on Bristol Gate, meaning that ambulances cannot access A&E. Richard confirms that the Trust employ traffic marshals to ensure that all congestion is kept to a minimum, and any ambulances that are arriving into A&E under Blue Light conditions are given priority.

One local resident suggested that it would be good if the trust had a publicity campaign to try and get people visiting the hospital to use public transport wherever possible. This would help to cut down on the amount of cars visiting the site and would ease congestion. Richard agreed that it would be a good idea, and will follow it up with colleagues in the communications team.

Richard finished the meeting by talking through a series of photos which highlight the work that has been carried out on site since the start of the project.

7. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be **Wednesday 8th April 2020** at 7pm (coffee/tea from 6.45pm) in the Audrey Emerton Building.