

KLDC Minutes April 2020

MINUTES OF THE SIXTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE KENT LOCAL DENTAL COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 1st APRIL 2020 at 6.00pm

(THIS MEETING WAS HELD AS A VIRTUAL MEETING ON ZOOM DUE TO THE
COVID-19 OUTBREAK)

Present: Drs Ahmad, Barham, Banvir, Bhatti, Carstens, P Chopra, R Chopra, Davies, Elder, Hartle, Hamill, Hogan, Momin, Myint, Nugent, A Patel, M Patel, N Patel, U Patel, V Patel, Raghava, Ramamoorthy, Sheridan, Smith, Unter, Varghese, Winstone, Wood, Willis-Lake.

Observers: Drs Mike Watts and Mihir Shah.

The current secretary (Dr J M Unter) took items 1-4 of the agenda

1. INTRODUCTION TO AGM & WELCOME TO OBSERVERS

Dr Unter thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting which was a little unusual in that it was a virtual meeting. He was pleased to note the high attendance (30 colleagues). He welcomed the two observers' Dr Watt (who recently retired and wished to attend as an observer) and Dr Shah.

Dr Unter advised that he and Dr Hogan had been dealing with reports and emails on a daily basis around COVID-19 and the main focus on this evening's meeting would be around this topic. He hoped that members had read the circulated reports and unless there were any questions on these then they would not go through them in detail so time could be spent updating activity around Covid-19. There were no objections.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Apologies were received from Dr Shivji.

3. KLDC BY-ELECTION RESULTS [[Attached Report: Membership for KLDC 2020](#)]

Dr Unter explained that due to the retirement of both Drs Watts and Hymas there were two vacancies. A by-election was held with the Clerk (Mrs Tracy Moynes) acting as Returning Officer. Dr Unter congratulated both Drs Shabir Momin and Muneer Patel for being successful in being appointed as (unopposed) new members into the NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent constituency. He thanks the Clerk for her help with the by-election

4. APPOINTMENTS

(a) Chairman – nominations were sought by Dr Unter.

Dr Hogan was **proposed** by Dr U Patel and **seconded** by Dr Smith.

There were no other nominations, therefore Dr Hogan was **re-elected unopposed**.

(b) Vice Chairman – nominations were sought by Dr Unter.

Dr Nugent was **proposed** by Dr U Patel and **seconded** by Dr Hamill.

There were no other nominations, therefore Dr Nugent was **elected unopposed**.

The Secretary handed over to the Chairman (Dr Tim Hogan) to take the remaining agenda items.

5. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND HONORARIA

- (a) Secretary - nominations were sought by Dr Hogan
Dr Unter was **proposed** by Dr V Patel and **seconded** by Dr R Chopra
Dr Unter commented that this would be his 29th year as Secretary. There were no other nominations therefore Dr Unter was **re-elected unopposed**.
The Honoraria for secretary was **agreed** at 70 sessions (no change)
- (b) Treasurer – nominations were sought by Dr Hogan.
Dr Winstone was **proposed** Dr Banvir and **seconded** by Dr Bhatti.
There were no other nominations, therefore Dr Winstone was **re-elected unopposed**.
The Honoraria for Treasurer was **agreed** at 12 sessions (no change).
- (c) Chairman (Honoraria)
The Honoraria for Chairman was **agreed** at 12 sessions (no change).

6. REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES [[Attached Report: KLDC AGM](#)]

No changes

7. LAST MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 8TH JANUARY 2020

- (a) Confirmation of Minutes [[Jan20 Minutes Attached Minutes](#)]
Dr Hogan advised that he and Dr Unter had been through the minutes and there were no significant action points. The minutes were approved. **Action:** Minutes to be loaded onto the KLDC website as usual.
- (b) Matters Arising – there were no matters arising.

8. NOTICE OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS - There was no other business to report.

9. SECRETARY:

- (a) Correspondence – (not reported elsewhere) – Dr Unter advised that he and Dr Hogan had received a lot of reports and emails with regards to Covid-19, which has taken up a considerable amount of time daily.

He advised members that the KLDC had secured a date for a Clinical Study Day on Friday 9th October at the Great Danes Hotel, Hollingbourne. They had confirmed speakers such as Nick Goodger, David Ezra (Vantage/REGO), AJ Chaudhuri, Ian Kerr and Simon Quelch. He asked members to keep this date in their diaries. Help from members would be needed on the day with delegate management & administration. Delegate attendance will be free on the day with approximately 10 sponsors invited to financially support the day and display their dentally related services. Particularly in view of the current Covid-19 crisis members will be updated and further discussion will take place at the next meeting in July.

- (b) Report of Meetings – (not reported elsewhere) – there were no other meetings to report.

(c) KLDC Annual Report [[Annual Report attached](#)]

10. TREASURER

(a) Annual Report [[Report attached: Treasurers Report](#)]

Dr Winstone's report advised that he had prepared a budget for the LDC for 2020/2021. This will then be sent to the NHS England South East and Dental Services NHS BSA to be raised from schedules. NHS BSA have confirmed that they can translate their budgeted sum into a percentage to be applied across all GDS contracts and that it was his suggestion that this would be spread over as many months as possible.

He explained the accounts at the meeting and brought a copy of them up on screen for members to see. He guided members through the various figures. He explained he would have to put something in as a contingency plan to support the proposed the Study Day.

Dr Winstone also mentioned the new amended claim form which can be completed by members electronically. He thanked Dr Unter for his initial help with testing and he also wanted to thank Dr Myint for testing this and suggesting some changes and sharing with him the knowledge of how to improve the spreadsheet. He asked members who had not already done so to email their form over after the meeting. He also asked new members to make sure they saved the spreadsheet under their names and for new members to give him their banks details.

(b) Statutory Levy [[Report Attached: Dentists Health Support Trust](#)]

Dr Winstone had attached a report together with a copy of a thank you letter from The Dentists' Health Support Trust committee gratefully acknowledging the donation of £12,000.

11. NHS ENGLAND MATTERS

(a) NHS England SE & NHS Improvement (NHSE/I)

(i)(a) Kent Local Dental Network (LDN) – there was nothing to report.

(i)(b) Orthodontic MCN & Orthodontic Matters

[[Attached Report 1: GDC Statement on providing dental care remotely](#)]

A report from Dr Sheridan had been circulated. In her report Dr Sheridan talks about continually monitoring new developments in the dental section as part of their statutory object to protect the public. Anyone practicing dentistry while not registered with the GDC could be subject to prosecution. They have received reports that providers of direct to consumer orthodontics are offering services which may not include face to face contact with a registrant authorised to provide direct services to patients.

[[Attached Report 2: Ortho MCN Report](#)]

Dr Hogan reported on a meeting in the absence of Connie Sheridan on the 19.3.2020.

(i)(c) Oral Health Improvement MCN – there was nothing to report.

(i)(d) Restorative MCN – there was nothing to report.

(i)(e) Routine Dental Care MCN – [[Attached Report: RD MCN 050220](#)]

Dr Laura Smith's report of a meeting held on the 5/2/2020 was circulated.

(i)(f) Urgent Care; Oral Surgery & Special Care MCNs – there was nothing to report.

li)(g) Kent Infection Prevention & Control Antimicrobial Stewardship (KIPCAS)

[[Attached Report: Kent Medway ASG Report Jan 2020](#)]

(This is a new agenda item)

Dr Hogan attended the first meeting of the combined West and East Kent Antimicrobial Stewardship Groups on 27th January at Medway Hospital Postgraduate Centre. The purpose of the meeting is to implement the 5-year AMR strategy for Kent and Medway. This strategy is derived from the national strategy and includes dentistry as a stakeholder since it is recognised dentists prescribe 10.8% of all antibiotics in primary care, 18.4% of all Amoxicillin and 57% of all Metronidazole.

(ii) Dental Electronic Referral Service (DERS) – there was nothing to report.

(iii) KSS Performance Advice Group (PAG) – there was nothing to report.

(iv) KSS Performers List Decision Panel (PLDP) – there was nothing to report.

(v) DCQAP – Dental Contracts & Quality Assurance Panel [[Attached Report: DCQAP Report TPH Tonbridge 22/1/2020](#)] – Dr Hogan reported that this was the last meeting of DCQAP and Wharf House is to close. KSS is amalgamating with the Isle of Wight, Hampshire, Bedfordshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire and it is unknown what form DCQAP will take. Future meetings will have to be "Team" video conference meetings due to the immense geographical area.

(vi) SE Coast LDCs (Channel Group)- there was nothing to report.

(b) DentaLine [[Attached Report: DentaLine Kent LDC Report April 2020](#)] –Dr Davies pointed out the currently DentaLine is telephone triage only. They are receiving hundreds of calls every evening.

(c) Dental Practice Advisors Reports – there was nothing to report.

12. PASS PRACTITIONER ADVICE AND SUPPORT SCHEME - There was nothing to report.

13. THE LDC ANNUAL CONFERENCE - to be held on the 4th and 5th of June 2020 at the Grand Hotel Brighton.

(a) Members Attending – It was noted that the conference has been postponed until November and there will be no official's day either. Attendees will be discussed in our July meeting.

(b) Motions for Submission – this will be discussed in the July Meeting.

14.HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – there was nothing to report.

15. SALARIED DENTAL SERVICES

- East Kent [[Attached report: Kent LDC Report](#)] – there was nothing to add.
- West Kent [[Attached report: MCH CDS Kent LDC Report April 2020](#)] - there was nothing to add.

16. GENERAL DENTAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE: REPORT OF KENT REPRESENTATIVE(S)

[[Attached Report: GDPC Report](#)]

Dr Hartle's report was attached. She reported on a GDPC meeting on the 31st January where Dave Cottam was re-elected as Chair and Shawn Charlwood and Vijay Sudra were re-elected as Vice Chairs.

17. LMC REPORT –

(a) LMC Report [[Attached Report: Kent LMC Report for Jan 2020 Meeting](#)]

Dr Winstone reported on a meeting held on 23/1/2020.

(b) LMC/LDC/LPC Officials Meeting – there was nothing to report.

18. KLDC WEBSITE [www.kldc.org.uk]

Dr Hogan thanked Dr Unter for doing an increasing amount of work putting on a lot of relevant information from NHSE, Chief Dental Officer etc etc. The BDA which continues to be a good source of information and appropriate links have also been added. There is also some good information on triage from various respected sources. Dr Unter also checked that the links were working with Surrey and Sussex who publish KLDC material on their websites. It is apparent the Local Dental Office of NHSE/I also use the KLDC website for information and redirect some practices to the site.

19. EDUCATION AND TRAINING – Dental Foundation Training [[Attached Report: HEE LaKSS Dental Foundation Training Report KLDC – April 1st 2020](#)]

Dr Shivji was unable to join the meeting but his report had been circulated

COVID 19 DISCUSSION

Drs Hogan and Unter have been heavily involved in the developing situation regarding the cessation of all GDP dental practice in the UK and the attempts to develop Unscheduled Dental Care Centres in Kent.

A general discussion took place regarding letters received from the Chief Dental Officer and the many unanswered questions since the formal cessation of dental care in England since late March. Matters discussed included; concerns over furlough payments and how this was calculated in mixed provision NHS/Private practices. It was advised that an announcement would be made shortly to agree a split compromise where this was the case.

Aerosol generating procedures (AGPs) were no longer permitted in practices. Practices are expected to provide AAA during their usual contracted surgery hours (Advice, Analgesia & Antibiotics (if indicated)). A guidance document has been written on how to triage your patients and all these documents have been published on the special "Covid-19" page on the KLDC website.

Discussions took place around plans to open three UDC Unscheduled Care Centres asap in Ashford, Chatham and Maidstone for patients not included in the shielded and vulnerable categories (who will be treated in CDS premises).

There were concerns that these initial UDCs were in relatively close proximity to each other and there was some unease over where patients living in the Dartford area would attend. The UDCs would be staffed on a voluntary basis and each practice would have two surgeries with each patient being allotted up to an hour for treatment and then suitable surgery cleaning. The correct PPE will be provided to all staff working in the UDC. Various considerations were given to selecting suitable centres such as an adjacent car park and suitable patient flow route in and out of the building.

Dr Unter said that he had received several offers from colleagues to use their surgeries and these offers needed to be forwarded direct to NHSE. There was a debate over what was meant by correct PPE and Dr Willis-Lake advised that in order to properly fit test [a mask] a person it takes around half an hour. She said that some people were not being fitted correctly and this was a concern.

Dr Elder advised that he had been very busy and said that PPE availability was much improved the last week or so and that things were improving. Their aim was to prevent patients from ending up in A&E and he was happy to tend to their needs. He said that they required volunteers for streamlining services and anyone can put their name forward.

Dr Ahmad asked if there was a timeline for the new UDCs or an emergency line outside of their patch but this as yet is not known. Dr Unter advised that apparently some practices have operated reduced surgery contact availability hours and that practices must be managing their patients more adequately providing AAA within their contracted hours. The OCDO had required private practices to continue to care for their patients at this time with AAA.

Dr Willis-Lake advised that they had hubs for category 2 and 3 patients in Faversham and Ramsgate. They have triaged over 200 calls and are doing remote prescribing, supplying drugs and analgesics but only have a very limited supply of FFP3 masks currently.

Dr Barham mentioned that they were having problems with remote prescribing. Some patients had to travel a long way to pick up prescriptions and some pharmacies were not answering their phones or [she] had difficulties with email address when trying to scan and email a prescription locally. She felt it would be useful to have a list of pharmacies that they could use. **Action:** Dr Hogan said that he was on the prescribing sub-committee and that this was something that was being worked on with REGO/DERS and that they were currently in the process of writing a suitable programme. [**Secretary's note:** Remote prescribing was promptly subsequently agreed by co-operation between the KLDC and the KLPC so that an agreed method for remote prescribing was available in addition to when this is eventually available via REGO/DERS].

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING, Wednesday 1st July – Holiday Inn, Rochester.

Whilst this is currently scheduled to be at the Holiday Inn it may be necessary to hold it once again as a virtual meeting. Members will be notified of any changes closer to the meeting date.

FUTURE DATES:

- Wednesday, 7th October 2020
- Wednesday, 6th January 2021
- Wednesday, 31st March 2021
- Wednesday, 7th July 2021 and
- Wednesday, 6th October 2021