

KLDC Minutes March 2021

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE KENT LOCAL DENTAL COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 31st MARCH 2021 AT 6.00 PM AS A VIRTUAL MEETING ON “ZOOM” DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Present: Drs Banvir, Barham, C Batistoni, R Chopra, Davies, Elder, Hartle, Hamill, Hogan, Kolozvari, Lone, Mauthe, Momin, Myint, Nugent, N Patel, U Patel, V Patel, Raghava, Ramamoorthy, Sheridan, Shivji, Smith, Unter, Willis-Lake, Winstone and Wood.

Observers: No observers were present.

The current Secretary (Dr J M Unter) took items 1 – 4 of the agenda.

1. INTRODUCTION TO AGM & WELCOME TO OBSERVERS / NEW MEMBERS

Dr Unter welcomed members to the 73rd meeting of the KLDC and AGM. He gave a very warm welcome and introduced himself as Secretary to three of the four new members that were present at the meeting:- Drs Batistoni, Kolozvari and Lone. The fourth new member, Dr Lesnyak was not present and no apologies had been received to date.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Late apologies were received from Dr M Patel.

3. KLDC ELECTION RESULTS ~ {[Report Attached: Membership for KLDC 2021/2](#)}

Dr Unter advised the new members that biennial elections of the KLDC took place every two years for four year terms. He thanked the Clerk Tracy Moynes for acting once again as the Returning Officer for this year's, 2020/21 biennial election of the KLDC.

4. APPOINTMENT AND HONARARIA

- Chairman – Dr Unter thanked the past Chair Dr Hogan for all his hard work as over the last year. Dr Hogan indicated that he was willing to stand for this role again. Nominations were sought by Dr Unter.

Dr Hogan was **proposed** by Dr Nugent and **seconded** by Dr Momin. No other nominations were forthcoming therefore, Dr Hogan was **re-elected** unopposed.

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

5. APPOINTMENTS AND HONARARIA

- Amendment to Constitution regarding number of vice Chairs that can be appointed –

Dr Hogan reminded members that there had been a discussion at the January meeting regarding succession planning for the officer roles in the LDC. He said that Dr Unter,

Winstone and himself had been in their current roles for many years and an amendment was proposed to the Constitution in relation to succession planning for the position of vice Chair. The current Constitution only allows one vice chair to be appointed. The idea would be that the current officer roles be partly shared with interested members and that in time this could lead to these members taking over the officer position(s).

Dr Hogan proposed an amendment to section 7.1 of the Constitution be made to elect one or two vice chairs if the committee wished. The proposed minor change to the KLDC Constitution was shared with members on screen. Dr Unter then proceeded to ask to vote within Zoom on this proposal. 100% votes were received in favour of this amendment to be implemented with no abstentions. {[Report Attached: Item 5\(a\)](#)}

Dr Hogan advised that these positions would not receive honoraria, but they would be expected to fill in as often as possible on “Zooms” with Dr Unter and himself. They would start to learn what is involved and become more active in the positions. A Guild rate of £85.00 per hour would be paid for each session and Dr Winstone would put this into the budget. Dr Hogan asked members if anyone would be happy to take up these new roles or if anyone wanted to propose themselves.

- Vice Chairman (s) - Drs Nugent and Wood both put their names forward to take up these new roles. Dr Nugent was **proposed** by Dr Momin and seconded by Dr Dr Wood was **proposed** by Dr Barham and **seconded** by Dr Hogan.
- Secretary – Dr Hogan thanked Dr Unter as usual for a fantastic job over the last year especially during this difficult time and asked if he was willing to stand for another year. Dr Unter advised that he would be happy to stand again for what would be his 30th year!

Dr Unter was **proposed** by Dr Hartle and **seconded** by Dr R Patel. No other nominations were forthcoming, therefore Dr Unter was **re-elected** unopposed. The Honoraria for secretary was **agreed** at 70 sessions (no change)

- Treasurer – Dr Hogan thanked Dr Winstone for his hard work as usual over the past year and asked if he was willing to stand for another - which he said that he was.

Dr Winstone was **proposed** by Dr Shivji and **seconded** by Dr N Patel. There were no other nominations forthcoming, therefore Dr Winstone was **re-elected** unopposed. The Honoraria for Treasurer was **agreed** at 12 sessions (no change).

- Chairman (Honoraria only) – The Honoraria for chairman was **agreed** at 12 sessions (no change).
- Confirmation of Co-opted members – Dr Davies, Willis-Lake and Elder agreed that they would like to continue as co-opted members.

6. **REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES** ~ {[Report Attached](#)}

A brief synopsis was given for each of these positions.

- PAG Performance Advice Group – Dr Unter (who had completed the necessary training) was currently on this committee and was happy to continue;
- PLDP – It was felt that Dr Hogan should continue as he also had already completed the necessary training;

- Oral Health Improvement - this was currently chaired jointly by Drs Davies & Willis-Lake. Although Dr Unter was the deputy KLDC representative and there was a vacancy for a main KLDC representative for KSS Core meetings. Dr Willis-Lake said that she would be happy for someone to be appointed from the Kent LDC. Dr Wood volunteered that she could attend the next meeting on Thursday, 17th June from 10.30am to 12.30pm and was available for future meetings (Dr Unter remains as deputy).
- Orthodontic MCN – this was currently attended Dr Sheridan and it was felt that it made sense for her to continue as she was the LDCs only specialist orthodontist. She felt that there was no point in having a deputy at this stage as nothing was currently happening;
- Restorative MCN – Dr Unter was currently the LDC Rep but he was quite happy for someone else to take over who was in current clinical practice, There were two meetings a year chaired by Brian Miller Restorative Consultant at Kings. Four members put their names forward for this group:- Drs Myint, Wood, Momin and Nugent. An online Zoom vote took place during the meeting and Dr Wood received the most votes. She was therefore appointed onto this committee; (Dr Unter remains as deputy).
- General Practice MCN - both Drs Smith and Myint (deputy) were happy to continue on this committee;
- Oral Surgery – Dr Unter advised members that previously the KLDC used to send a representative to the IMOS steering group. This group has now been replaced by the Oral Surgery MCN and he had recently asked Alison Cross (NHSE/I SE co-ordinator) if the KLDC could send a representative. The terms of reference are currently being reviewed and there was a possibility that this committee could soon be reorganised but the KLDC were keen to send a representative preferably with IMOS experience if it were to continue. Dr Nugent **proposed** Dr U Patel (who said that he would be more than happy to represent the LDC) and he was **seconded** by V Patel. (Dr V Patel to act as deputy if required);
- Hospital Representative – Dr Elder said that he was happy to continue;
- GDPC (BDA) – Dr Hartle advised that she was happy to continue as she was the representative for West Kent. Dr Lesnyak was the representative for East Kent but was not present at tonight's KLDC meeting. **Action:** Dr Hartle advised that she had not heard from Dr Lesnyak but was more than happy to pay him a visit at his practice in Herne Bay. It was **agreed** that Dr Unter would contact Dr Lesnyak to seek his intentions as regards GDPC and KLDC membership. [It was noted that if a member of the KLDC misses 3 consecutive meetings under the constitution they will be obliged to resign their membership of the KLDC].

7. **LAST MEETING, WEDNESDAY 6TH JANUARY 2021 HELD "VIRTUALLY"**

(a) Confirmation of Minutes ~ {[Attached 7\(a\) Minutes](#)} - A few minor errors were corrected and as usual they will be uploaded onto the KLDC website.

- Matters Arising ~ {[Attached: 7\(b\) Revised copy of the KLDC Constitution](#)}

There was an action from the previous minutes appertaining to Donations. These will be discussed under the Treasurer's Report (Item 10b).

Dr Unter advised that he had received correspondence since the last meeting after Elizabeth Lines attended from HealthWatch. They understand the problems dentists are facing and the shortage of dentists. HealthWatch have apparently received lots of complaints and Dr Unter has spent a great deal of time responding from his own viewpoint to Healthwatch to give them an accurate picture of the effects of the pandemic on dental practices. He had deliberately done this as a personal response rather than one on behalf of the KLDC.

8. NOTICE OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

9. SECRETARY

- Correspondence – as usual Dr Unter reported that relevant items will be discussed as they appear on the agenda. {[Report Attached:9\(a\)](#)}
- Report of Meetings – Dr Unter reported that as usual he will report items as they appear on the agenda. He mentioned the slight changes that had been made to the KLDC Constitution submitted to the January meeting at the request of Annie Godden NHSE/I SE. The Constitution has now been fully approved. He reported that he had been kept very busy! He had received lots of emails and phone calls from dentists, clinical and non-clinical staff with regards to getting their Covid-19 vaccines. After applying pressure to help kick-start the vaccination process he was asked by Kent and Medway CCG to publish information on the KLDC website with details of the location of vaccination centres. He was also supplied by NHSE/I SE with an extensive list of practice and private email addresses of providers and performers in order to advise where colleagues could find up-to-date information where they and their staff could get their vaccines from. NHSE/I SE were surprised (and probably very relieved) that Kent LDC were given this task as in Surrey and Sussex this information was distributed by NHSE/I SE. This worked well as day to day changes in arrangements could be quickly and accurately updated on the website.

Dr Unter further reported that he had had frequent contact from performers and providers regarding the quarter 4 payments. He listened to the debate in parliament with Jo Churchill which seemed to fall on the Governments deaf ear(s). The KLDC along with the E & W Sussex & Surrey LDCs had written in support of colleagues to Jo Churchill and Matt Hancock. Letters were also sent to all the Kent MPs but had only received non-committal replies. Dr Hogan thanked Dr Unter for the huge amount of work that he had embarked on.

- Draft Annual Report - Dr Unter reported that the draft was attached and thanked Dr Hartle for suggesting some minor corrections. He mentioned a recent piece of information advised by the BSA (and added to his report) regarding what dentists should do if they feel they have been unfairly paid. Dr Unter advised he had received queries from over 70 dentists with concerns over pay and details of what they can do now are included in the report. This more recent initiative finally gives the BSA the authority to liaise with the commissioners in cases where the correct payments have not been made. Previous submissions could not be shared apparently. He advised that once the draft was approved this would be circulated to every dentist via the extended email list he now had available from the vaccination notifications. He advised that it was important that this report reached all dentists because they are all paying into the levy and some never actually see a report when it was only sent to the limited provider only email list available to the KLDC in previous years.

10. TREASURER

- Annual Report ~ {[Attached Report](#)}

Dr Winstone brought up his report on “Zoom” and went through the individual expenses.

He advised that time spent on LDC matters in particular by Drs Unter/Hogan had increased but that travel had fallen. Clerical had also decreased due to the reports written by members.

The Annual Conference costs had reduced due to it being performed virtually and room hire cost was zero due again to the virtual meetings. Last year the Statutory Levy request had been inputted by NHS England's commissioning team and it had been raised in one lump rather than over 12 months. This year the BSA will be inputting it and it will be spread evenly over 12 months with the first one to be taken in May.

Dr Winstone said that he was putting together a budget but because it had been a slightly unusual year, it would be a bit of an estimate. He hoped that KLDC members would be able to meet up face-to-face soon. He asked members to complete their claim forms and new members to make sure that they included their bank details. **Action:** The Clerk to email members the claim form. [The clerk emailed this after the meeting]

- Statutory Levy - Dr Winstone advised that it had been decided at the last meeting that the donations to the various charities from the Statutory Levy would be held off until the March meeting. Dr Winstone suggested the following donations be made:

British Dental Guild £15,000

Dental Health Trust £12,000 and

BDA Benevolent Fund £2,000

Action: These donations were **proposed** by Dr Hartle and **seconded** by Dr Shivji.

Dr Hogan thanked Dr Winstone as usual for looking after members so well.

11. NHS ENGLAND MATTERS

- NHS England SE & NHS Improvement (NHSE/I) ~ [{Attached Report 11\(a\)}](#)

Professional Leadership in Integrated Care Systems (ICS): Dr Hogan explained that the report attached was put together by Dr Unter and E&W Sussex LDCs working collaboratively. The online meeting was attended by Drs Winstone, Unter and himself for Kent. He said that dentistry seemed to be a low priority in the pecking order and that there did not seem to be a way yet of a dentist putting their "foot in the door".

(i)(a) Kent Local Dental Network (LDN) ~ [{Attached Report: 11\(a\)\(i\)\(a\)}](#) -There was nothing to add.

(i)(b) Orthodontic MCN & Orthodontic ~ [{Attached Report; 11\(a\)\(i\)\(b\)}](#) - In addition to the detail in her report Dr Sheridan advised that she had discovered an App called Easy IOTN that is strongly recommended by the British Orthodontic Society (BOS). This app guides you through the questions you need to answer for DHC and gives you the resulting IOTN score. It then allows you to upload a patient's photographs if you need help with the aesthetic score. The photographs will be deleted as soon as the app is closed, so no GDPR issues. This is available on the app store and the referral guide is now on the KLDC website (<https://kldc.org.uk/referrals/orthodontic-referrals>). With regards to REGO there had been many changes made which many dentists seem to be completely unaware of. They are requesting that orthodontists receive standalone regular training updates from REGO. The simplest way would be via webinar.

(i)(c) Oral Health Improvement MCN ~ { [Attached Report: 11\(a\)\(i\)\(c\)](#) } - Dr Unter advised that he attended the MCN meeting recently. It was also clear that there were significant inequalities in our area and the complications of Covid, mental health issues, unemployment and homelessness were huge problems to deal with.

(i)(d) Restorative MCN ~ { [Attached Report: 11\(a\)\(i\)\(d\)](#) } - Dr Unter's report was attached of a meeting he attended on the 17th March 2021.

(i)(e) Routine Dental Care MCN ~ { [Attached Report: 11\(a\)\(i\)\(e\)](#) } - Dr Smith's report was attached of a meeting held on 10th February 2021.

(i)(f) Urgent Care: Oral Surgery & Special Care MCNs ~ { [Attached Report: 11\(a\)\(i\)\(f\)](#) } - Dr Unter referred colleagues to his written report for these items under 11(a)(i).

Dr Hogan had attended a commissioning meeting titled: Unscheduled Dental Care Recommissioning Steering Group. Dr Hogan's report was attached from the first meeting which he was asked to attend on behalf of all the NHSE/I SE LDCs.

Dr Davies advised that she has been involved in the Kent DentaLine recommissioning which is being extended until March 2023 and they are putting together procurement plans.

Dr Hogan advised that unscheduled guidelines were to be re-written and that they were looking for advanced CPD on antimicrobial prescribing.

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

~ { [Attached Report: 11\(a\)\(i\)\(g\)](#) } – Dr Hogan reported that they are currently looking for a new Chair for the meeting.

(ii) Dental Electronic Referral Services (DERS) – Dr Winstone reported that this is developing even more with incredible improvements. It is constantly being reviewed. Groups are looking at pathways (which Alison Cross is sorting) along with tweaking of algorithms.

(iii) KSS Performance Advice (PAG) - Dr Unter advised that he attended the monthly meeting in January and the next meeting he will attend will be in early April. He advised that the Professional Standards staff were very stretched.

(iv) KSS Performers List Decision Panel (PLDP) – Dr Hogan advised that he attended one meeting recently but that there were three a year. The meetings were high level and involved. There was a great deal of reading (over 282 pages) in advance in one case.

He also advised that he had been working on a written document for advice for clinical supervisors with Dr Winstone which Dr Unter has read. It has received approval from the Medical Directorate. This will be a useful library of audits for dentists to read. It was written for supervisors but will be very relevant for the supervised and provide valuable information about what reflection and audits were about and how dentists need to present the right information to the various panels.

(v) LDC/NHSE/I SE Liaison Group ~{ [Attached Report: 11\(a\)\(v\)](#) } – This was a new group and it was felt that it was a very important meeting being the first line of contact with NHSE/I

SE and the LDCs covering Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hampshire /Isle of Wight, Beds, Bucks & Oxfordshire.

(vi) SE Coast LDCs (Channel Group) -This group covers Kent, Surrey and Sussex and meets approximately every three months. The last meeting was the 3rd January and is an essential forum for sharing local issues and objectives in KSS.

- DentalLine ~ {[Attached Report:11\(b\)](#)} - Dr Davies reported that helping people remotely was still a huge problem.
- Dental Practice Advisors:

Dr Hamill reported the same usual practice visits and contract complaint reviews were slowly flowing in as normal.

Dr Shivji reported that he had received a couple of complaints across the region. They were fairly consistent issues relating to restrictions and appointments.

Dr Winstone reported that he had been doing a big piece of work in Hampshire. He was involved with clinical advice and information which was not always disseminated as you would like it to be. He had been dealing with triage with Dr Shivji and with some referral difficulties. He had been involved in some complaints triaging and whether or not referral to PAG was necessary.

12. **PASS – PRACTITIONER ADVICE & SUPPORT SCHEME**

Dr Hogan advised that it had not been necessary to use this support scheme recently as any problems that had presented had been dealt with via emails and telephone by himself and Dr Unter. Dr Hartle asked how you could be trained up for this support scheme and Dr Hogan advised that there was a training manual to assist. He pointed out that you did not have to be on the LDC to be a facilitator.

Action: Dr Hartle said that things were changing across England at a national level and that she would feed back.

13. **THE LDC CONFERENCE – to be held virtually on Saturday, 12th June 2021**

- Members attending (four plus one special observer) – Members nominated to attend the Conference which would be held virtually from 10am to 4pm were: Drs Hogan, Smith, Unter, Winstone and Batistoni (as special observer). Dr Lone offered to be a reserve if required. Also attending would be Dr Hartle in the capacity of GDP representative for Kent.
- Motions for submission: Dr Davies proposed a motion to ask NHSE/I to suspend current procurement processes in special care and paediatric dentistry in the South East. It was agreed this would be discussed after the meeting to see if this was appropriate for Conference. [Secretary's note: This was initially discussed by Dr Davies and the KLDC officers. Subsequent discussion with the Conference motion staff at the BDA suggested that this was not appropriate for Conference – but that the BDA would try through its other services to take this matter forwards.]

14. **HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE & SALARED DENTAL SERVICES**

- Dr Elder said that it was business as usual and that activity was normal but would be happy to take any questions. Dr Winstone asked what was going on with GA's: Dr Elder advised that GA for cancer patients were back; ENT has the longest waiting list and it was up to the hospital which speciality took priority. Capacity is limited with other specialities waiting for theatre space. With children, previously where six patients were booked there is now only two. Paediatrics are taking priority over adults. Dr Davies mentioned that there is only one pre-assessment slot per month and patients need a 72 hour covid test in order to go on a list. They have been forced into a procurement exercise and still have to work the next few months with limited care for patients (Item 13 (b) refers). HealthWatch are aware of the problems.
- East Kent ~ {[Attached Report:14\(b\)](#)} - There was nothing to add to Dr Davies' Report.
- West Kent – Dr Willis-Lake apologised that there was no report but said that she would prepare one for the next meeting. She was feeling exhausted and had been having the same problems as Dr Davies. They have tested the air exchange and down-time in each of their rooms. The QEQM in Margate has four sessions this month. The William Harvey will have five sessions, four adult and one paediatrics. The backlog for paediatrics is until the end of May and the adults the beginning of June. Her DCT is doing a survey on the end of life care and she urged everyone to share with other dentists and friends. It is looking into a consultant for end of life care. There has not been any commissioning for this and she asked dentists how prepared they would be if a patient lost a tooth and how soon the patient could be seen in these circumstances. She asked if anyone had any ideas or experiences to please share with her. **Action:** Dr Hartle said she had previous experience with a motor neurone patient and she would email Dr Willis-Lake the details.

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

<https://kldc.org.uk/gdpc-reports>

Dr Hartle's reports were as usual on the KLDC website and dentists were urged to read them. She reported that there had been issues with a suicide. A partner had been left with three young children and they were looking at the Ben Fund for support for the family. All cancer rates are up by 50%. This would be a problem with a patient with oesophageal cancer as the patient has a much better chance of a cure and treatment if diagnosed early.

16. **LMC REPORT**

Dr Winstone advised that there had been some concern over integrated care systems (ICS) and the LMC are looking into this. Kent & Medway ICS are not off the ground yet and the new replacement may hold the dental budgets in the future. He said that it was the end of CCGs as we know them.

17. **KLDC WEBSITE [<https://kldc.org.uk>]**

Dr Hogan thanked Dr Unter for the incredible amount of work that had been done on the website. The new Pharmacy list for Hep B for staff has gone on earlier today (they are cheaper and more available than Heales) as well as updated information on Covid vaccinations; Ortho and Endo referral guidelines. Colleagues were reminded that the KLDC holds foc stock of Bitrex A & B solutions on behalf of NHSE/I SE for whichever practices needed it.

18. **EDUCATION AND TRAINING – DENTAL FOUNDATION TRAINING ~{[Attached Report: 18](#)}**

Dr Shivji added that the activity for trainees was good. Targets will be compared to last year and some will not make it and action plans are being put in place. Undergraduate schools where necessary will keep dentists behind for six months to a year. They are still expecting a good number of trainees for next year, but it will not be as high as normal. A question was raised as to whether extensions would be put in place for Foundation Dentists or whether or not they would move on to other practices. Dr Shivji said that it would depend on the circumstances and assessment. Kent and Canterbury skills laboratory has been refurbished. There are lots of courses on Wisdom online and he advised dentists to feel free to sign up.

19. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday, 7th July 2021 – this will be held virtually again on “Zoom”. Future physical meetings will be considered as we hopefully come out of lockdown.

20. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business to report. However, Dr Hogan said that it was usual at the AGM to welcome new members by going round the group and everyone introducing themselves individually but that this was not really practical on a virtual meeting. He said that he was looking forward to meeting new members in person when it was safe to do so.

FUTURE DATES:

- Wednesday, 6th October 2021 – Venue tba
- Wednesday, 12th January 2022
- Wednesday, 6th April 2022 (Easter Sunday 17th April)
- Wednesday, 6th July 2022 and
- Wednesday, 5th October 2022

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