

## SOSiS

Notes from meeting held on 23 Feb 2015 in Woking

Notes taken by Ginny Eaton

Present Teresa Bowers-in Chair, Paul Couchman, Graham Pooley and Clare Pooley (relative of resident at Park Hall Care Home), Alan Clyne, Howard Kaye (Labour Candidate Farnham), Mark Bowers, Ginny Eaton, Fred Greaves, Robert Evans (Labour CC, SCC).

2. Apologies sent from Fiona Harkin.

TUs represented: UNISON, GMB and NUT.

3. Notes looked at from last meeting.

Charter on SOSiS is on our Website-we can respond.

4. No treasurer's Report as she absent but Paul reported that £10.00 has been received from an individual member who is a candidate for the peace Party. Also £100.00 has been received from NUT>

The cost of buying flags is prohibitive and decision was made not to purchase any just now. We will take our own TU and other banners to the Lobby on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Paul told us a 22 seated coach from Park Hall to County Hall would cost £200.00.

Alan Clyne reported that a coach to carry three wheel chairs and driver would be approx. £100/150 from Cobgates Home and for a 16 seated mini-bus it will be approx. £230.00.

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Committee agreed to cover this estimated £580.00.

5. Paul attended Park Hall's Walk in Reigate on a Sat recently. See Surrey Mirror this weekend 27/02/15 for a cover of the event.

Signatures against closure of the Care Homes total 4,500 over all with 4,373 on the website at the closing tally. 900 came in from all the homes on paper petitions.

This is a very high response, better than we've had before.

Discussion continued about the consultation and lack of meaningful consultation with relatives, staff, local residents, etc.

SCC's decision will be made on 27/02/15 after their meeting. The real decision is made at Cabinet.

SOSiS position is still that all six homes should remain open.

Paul will write a Press Release once decision is made an on the Snet.

Graham and Clare Pooley have had no indication as to how they and other relatives will be told the decision.

The LOBBY is at 12.30-2.00pm on 10<sup>th</sup> March at County Hall.

Cabinet meeting that day at 2pm is open to the public. We can leaflet that day. Have an open mic. Possibly music.

Paul will take responsibility for the PR system. Teresa may find a band to play from Br Legion.

What Next? We will meet again for just care Home Campaign soon after 10<sup>th</sup> March.

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6. Closure of 8 SCC Children's Centres.

This has come to our attention today although it was reported in the Surrey Mirror. There has been no consultation with the TU s by Babcock or CS&F directorate of SCC.

There are meetings happening at De Stafford according to a member who manages Hurst Green CC.

The motivation would seem to be financial saving £2.7million.

The Centres to potentially close are:

Hurst Green, Redhill, Claygate, Oxshott, Epsom, New Hurst near Cranley, Elstead and villages, Ashted next Leatherhead.

'MAKING CUTS FROM CRADLE TO GRAVE' seems to be our new slogan after this information tonight.

7. Date of next meeting: Monday 23/03/15 at 7pm in Woking.

8. Oxted School to be a Foundation leading to Academy school.

Ginny attended a parent's meeting and she and Frank attended separate small meetings with parents to talk with Governors.

DfES say to academies to get procession of the school land if possible as more control for future developments. Foundation school means school owns the land as well as the buildings.

There is a strong group of Oxted parents who do not want the Foundation or Academy conversion quite possibly because they don't want building on school land near their houses. We are not minded to support the campaign against the academy change.

Meeting ended approx. 8.30pm.