

Royston Community Breakfast – 14th July 2023 - Notes

Anita Howard (of NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough ICS (Integrated Care System), **South Cambridgeshire Integrated Care Partnership** spoke about the **LetsTalkRoyston** consultation which runs till 11th August. The integrated care approach seeks to integrate all services and bring professionals together – knowing your counterpart across geographical/specialty boundaries. There is recognition that “border towns” like Royston need special attention because of gaps and overlaps. e.g. Healthcare under 2 PCNs (Primary Care Networks) – Grant & Meridian, and social care which is under Herts not Cambs. The consultation is to start a conversation with people, understand where there are gaps, distances involved in getting blood-tests etc, who is not doing well and needs help, and to get this to them. Wider environmental factors (housing, nutrition, social issues) also affect wellbeing and the work at primary care level. They are aware that transport issues - e.g. to Cambridge - can be an issue and will be talking about walk-in clinics (here.) The consultation is about hearing the voice of those who access services, about health issues *before* coming up with a plan, not after.

Please encourage people to fill in the LetsTalkRoyston questionnaire on www.bit.ly/LetsTalkRoyston Please complete this online if possible, as it will help those collating responses. Staff resources to collate paper questionnaire answers are very limited. (NB. If one person has completed the questionnaire from your email address or computer ISP number, it may block another so as to prevent duplicated responses.) Paper copies (returnable by FREEPOST) are downloadable in PDF form, from <https://www.cpics.org.uk/lets-talk-royston> and in some locations in Royston e.g. surgery leaflet tables, and via HealthAid Royston (<http://www.roystonhealthaid.org/> who will be advertising in the Listing that they can send these out. The magazine will be distributed to households in late July, 11+days before the deadline for responses.) Please let people know. Re publicising the consultation - there are toolkits with images for circulation online, e.g. for use on social media on <https://www.cpics.org.uk/index.cfm?page=lets-talk-royston-toolkit> .There will be a formal consultation about the Hospital later.

Questions/comments:

- **HealthAid Royston** hopes that we all realise that having suitable premises with room for clinics, etc., is a vital pre-requirement for *provision* of services. The Health Centre cannot be extended and Roysia are short of space, so cannot put on extra clinics. Other practices in the 2 PCNs could benefit from facilities in Royston, too. Royston Community Transport supports Harston and Comberton (both in Meridian PCN.)
- The Social Prescribers/Navigators in the GP surgeries are doing an excellent and very valuable job.
- People sitting in silos and not focussing on patients (e.g. the NHS Property Company) can thwart real improvement. We must grasp the opportunity for integrated care.
- Young people in the villages have difficulty accessing confidential advice in pharmacies and services too.
- The <https://nessieined.com/> art workshops are a real boon, for upper primary/lower secondary age children.

John Hedges (including notes sent in advance) **HealthAid Royston** – Please see above about how they are helping to publicise the consultation, and let people who need paper copies know these can be obtained from HealthAid Royston. Their AGM was on 29/6/23, just as the news broke about the **Let’s Talk – Royston** consultation. HealthAid Royston strongly encourages everyone to complete the survey, advising them to put “Having the right spaces to provide healthcare from” at the top of the list of needs in question 1. If this response was strongly supported by local people, it would enhance the Integrated Care Board’s ability to put pressure on NHS Property Services via NHS England, to develop wasted clinical space at the hospital. It could support outreach mental health, geriatric, leg ulcer, obesity services, heart failure management, breathlessness management, diabetic eye screening etc, etc, clinics. This would strengthen community care and thereby take pressure off secondary care services at Addenbrookes and the Lister. Otherwise, the equity of a six-acre health services site in the town will be extracted by NHS Property Services and returned to central Government finances. As Royston sits on the border of two Integrated Care Boards, Cambs

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&Peterborough and Herts & West Essex, enhanced healthcare facilities in Royston will provide improved access to community healthcare in both ICBs.

RDCT- Royston & District Community Transport– had our first **summer barbecue for our volunteers** on Sat 8th. NHS Property Services would not let us hold it on the lawn outside the hospital. We remain short of **volunteer drivers** and had to cancel some trips in June due to our volunteers taking holidays outside school holiday times. Please remind any retired or semi-retired friends or colleagues about the opportunity of off-setting the cost of maintaining a car by becoming a volunteer driver.

Paul Bowes **The launch of Bows Books** was very successful and the Jeffrey Archer book-signing was very good too. Paul has drawn a lot of media attention with national and local TV and Radio including the 2 local radio stations.

Matt Barnes – local District Councillor for Meridian ward. The recent **Area Forum** was held and gave £1000 to Royston Festival via the Community Grant scheme. It is also looking at parking charges. Next meeting is on 6th September. Tomorrow the Council Leader is also walking round the area, talking to people.

John Froggett (Notes provided in advance) **Royston Radio Announcements** We have donated an Alexa device to the station commander at **Royston Fire Station**. We have met with the crew and will soon be broadcasting monthly fire safety messages. Royston Radio will be attending the **Royston Fire Station open Day** on July 29th.

We assisted Paul from **Bow Books** to welcome Jeffrey Archer at a book signing, providing refreshments and taking pictures for social media. We attended the pre-launch of the opening of the **King James Pub** in Royston and sampled their gourmet burgers and bar snacks.

We are sponsoring an event for the over 65's called '**Memory Lane**' at **Royston Town Council** which takes place on Weds 9th August from 2-4pm. Places can be booked directly with the council office.

Royston Radio is pleased to announce working alongside Sound Escape Theatre. The station will be broadcasting some new, exciting audio dramas beginning in the next couple of weeks.

This week we have welcomed a **student from MVC** for work experience week. She has an interest in Media and has been interviewing some of our local sponsors business and presenters. She has also been learning how to edit and make a show to be broadcast on the station soon. We look forward to welcoming more students in the future. Royston Radio will also be attending the **Kite festival** on Sunday 6th August.

Very exciting news update for the station is that **Royston Radio now has it's very own App** which has just been launched on App stores.

Louis Bradley **Make Lunch** needs volunteers. If anyone is interested please contact

makelunch@tlcroyston.org.uk **Trinity Life Church** also needs tutoring volunteers – all that is needed is to pass the DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) check.

Jackie Cotton - **HomeStart**– We have a few spaces left for our next **Literary Lunch** on Tuesday 18th July 12.15pm at The Bull with author Rachel Meller who has launched her first book 'The Box with the Sunflower'. **Volunteers Needed** – Can you spare 3 hours, one afternoon a week, on a rota basis to help at one of our **Family Support Groups** held in Royston, Buntingford and S Cambridgeshire? We are running a free training session in September which will provide all the knowledge you'll need to help at one of our Family Support Groups.

Fiona Hill **County Councillor**, also has a **small grants budget**.

Also please contribute to the **Rail Ticket Office closures consultation**. (See <https://www.transportfocus.org.uk/ticket-office-consultation/> and select your local station.) Responses must be made by Wednesday 26th July. You can email instead to TicketOffice.GTR@transportfocus.org.uk.)

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Fiona Hill ctd:

Volunteers needed at the Community Centre in the old Barn – helping both in the meeting room and in the kitchen. Please contact Fiona who will pass enquiries on.

Marion Kett, **Guiding UK**. Marion was here for the first time. She is looking at the Guides local finances and there is lots of work to do. They have applied for grants. They have also found the Nessie (<https://nessieined.com/>) services very useful.

David Allard – david.slade.allard@gmail.com ☎01763 242677 (Notes provided in advance.)

Royston Ramblers – there have been some gaps in our walks programme which normally consists of morning walks on Tuesdays and Thursdays and longer walks on Sundays. To see what is on offer go to:

www.ramblers.org.uk/royston

Royston and District Local History Society – our next session starts on Thursday 5th October in the Heritage Hall (the main hall downstairs), Royston Town Hall at 8pm when Tim Wreghitt will talk on ‘Making a Stand for Chelsea Medicinal Plants’. Annual Membership £15. Visitors at meetings £3. Our new programme will be sent out to our members in August and is available on our website: www.roystonlocalhistory.org.uk

Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust – we have a Church Tour, which starts from Meldreth station on Saturday 23rd September with a coach provided to take those joining the tour to visit South Cambs churches in the morning, with a pub stop at Orwell and Tea at Bassingbourn in the afternoon. The cost is £30 for members of the Trust and £40 for non-members. This includes the cost of the coach and afternoon tea but not lunch. Anyone interested in churches and church architecture should find this tour very interesting. I did a recce with Richard Genochio, the trustee organising the tour on 13th July. I shall be pleased to provide application forms to anyone who is interested.

Workers’ Educational Association (WEA) – there will be a course starting on 12th September on Mythology for Beginners by Jane Williams in Room 11 Royston Town Hall 10.30am – 12noon and lasting for ten weeks until 21st November with no class on 24th October. To book go to www.wea.org.uk quoting Q00010589 or telephone 0300 303 3464. The cost is £63.

Karin Weston

Royston Rotary Philip Martin is the new President. Thanks to Fiona for grants to Rotary. The **Kite Festival** will be on Therfield Heath on Sunday 6th August 10.30am – 4.30 pm.

Also **Beds & Herts Historic Churches** have a **Hike’n’Bike** on 9th September. See <https://bedshertshct.org.uk/bike-n-hike/>

Chris Lee

Thanks to Fiona for the grant for the **Repair Café**. The next one is on Saturday 19th August at Coombes Community Centre 2 - 5pm. Online booking from 1st August via Repair Cafe Facebook page or Chris Lee on 07962 157589.

Save the date for next **Royston Choral Society** concert - Saturday 25th November - Bach B Minor Mass.

Reg Hounsell

U3A Royston Fitness Group is well subscribed at present. Reg has discovered that U3A in Royston has 500 members! The number on **buses** seems to be increasing post-Covid, too. Note that **HertsLynx** is an on-demand **bus** service serving villages in North and East **Herts** and fixed destinations in Key Towns like Royston. David uses it and commented that you have to book in good time.

(Details: It has no fixed routes – it depends on what passengers need. Passengers can book journeys on **Herts Lynx** by calling 01992 555513, online at bookings.hertslynx.co.uk/login or via a free mobile App - HertsLynx.)

Sarah Hillman

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(New) Find a Grant service launched:

A new UK-wide online resource has been launched for organisations applying for government grants. Find a Grant includes over 200 schemes and is predicted to reduce the time spent on grant application by 72%.** (** That reduction in bureaucracy is long overdue! SH)

Read more about the service at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-service-for-accessing-government-support-to-save-taxpayer-over-200-million>”

Notes from people who were not able to attend

Tony Garrick

Our speaker at **Foxton Men's Breakfast** on Saturday, Brenda Horden representing Samaritan's Purse, mentioned they are looking for temporary storage for October/November in south Cambridgeshire to use for gift boxes and contents prior to despatch in the UK and overseas. If any of your contacts could assist then please pass their details to www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

Lynn Burgess

The **Summer Reading Challenge** started on 8th July and runs until 2nd September. This year's theme is a sporty one, "Ready, Set, Read". This national scheme challenges children to read at least 6 books during the summer holiday. There are stickers to collect along the way and a certificate, medal and a special pencil if they complete. The scheme helps to prevent reading levels from slumping as some children don't read during the school break.

On Thursday 3rd August at 4.00pm we are **hosting a theatre production** based on Julia Donaldson's "The Detective Dog". We have now sold out.

Tuesday Chatter social group continues to meet at 2 – 3.30pm with various speakers and activities.