

**Minutes of the meeting of the Cambridgeshire Local Optometric Committee which took place at the Black Bull Hotel, Godmanchester commencing at 7.00.**

**Present:** C.Edwards, L.Hodgson, D.Ireland, G.Kirk, A.Lask, V.Rosamond, S.Urquhart, J.Wade

**Apologies:** received from D.Harrison, W.Newson, C.Hely.

**Minutes of last meeting:** having been previously circulated, were approved by the meeting.

**Matters Arising:** the committee expressed concern over the supplementary form required to accompany the direct cataract referral forms. A.Lask thought it would be interesting to know the rates of MRSA present in the local eye clinics and operating theatres. It was felt that this could be raised at the clinical governance meeting next Thursday.

**Clinical Governance:** a meeting is to be held at Hinchingsbrooke next Thursday [26<sup>th</sup> April]. It was announced at short notice because there was some discussion over the funding of the meeting. Huntingdon PCT lost its funding so the LOC is sponsoring the meeting. The speakers will be Mrs M Hingorani reviewing clinical governance and Geoff Robson discussing the AOP clinical governance toolkit – “Quality in Optometry”. It is also proposed to officially launch the electronic referral forms and an infection control audit.

C.Edwards felt that the letter accompanying the infection control audit was not sufficiently self-explanatory and will contact C.Hely to see whether it can be amended. Any practice not represented at the meeting will receive details of the audit by post.

**Hinchingsbrooke glaucoma:** no further developments. An inaugural meeting of the Ely glaucoma scheme took place on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March. Six optometrists representing five practices attended.

**Diabetes:** D.Ireland reported not much change. The proposed £25.00 fee has been passed on to the PCT but as yet no reply has been received, although the meeting was sympathetic to the request. The Cheshire scheme is now up and running and all optometrists are expected to be on-line by end of May. The patient confidentiality issue has been resolved. D.Ireland feels that there may be problems in Cambridgeshire with different monitors and different broadband connections being used. A new contract will be issued which will be standard throughout the county. S. Urquhart reported problems with the Peterborough scheme in so far that since their scheme manager’s post no longer existed there was some difficulty in knowing who to refer the patients to.

**Low Vision:** no report

**Chairman:** no report

**Treasurer:** D.Ireland reported an end of year balance of £11,303.99p. He informed the committee that the statutory levy had remained at 0.6% for the past eight years and would recommend to the AGM that this should be increased to 1.5% to incorporate the levy to the LOC central support unit.

**Programme:** A.Lask reported that there are no meetings arranged at present.

**One Day Conference:** C.Edwards reported that all arrangements were in place and that the quotation for the pa system has been accepted.

**Any Other Business:** none

**Date of next meeting:** AGM on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June at the Black Bull commencing at 7-30.

**There will be no meal arranged.**