

## Brampton and District 50+ Forum

Report of the meeting held on Tuesday 20 September 2016 in Brampton Community Centre. 12 members took lunch in the community café; 24 people attended the meeting which followed.

The Chair, Carol Saunders, welcomed members.

Ann Oswin then gave an update on the discussions, so far, regarding changes to the provision of local health services. *Success Regime* is the organisation which has been given responsibility for implementing changes. They have received the results of a report by *Healthwatch Cumbria* which records the views of over 3400 residents of West, North and East Cumbria regarding their NHS services. In Carlisle one of the main concerns was community hospitals; in West Cumbria the main concern was the future role of the W. Cumbria Hospital. A summary of the report is available online:

<http://healthwatchcumbria.co.uk/3400-people-tells-us-their-views-on-success-regime-ideas/>

Ann attended a Stakeholder Update briefing on 11 August given by Success Regime. 3 key points were: health services are not sustainable as they are so there must be change; being in a hospital bed any longer than necessary is not good for patients so there has to be a shift of emphasis of caring for patients away from hospital and closer to home; there has been NHS overspending for several years and this is not sustainable.

The full briefing is available online:

[http://www.successregimecumbria.nhs.uk/images/Success\\_Regime\\_-\\_stakeholder\\_update\\_briefing.pdf](http://www.successregimecumbria.nhs.uk/images/Success_Regime_-_stakeholder_update_briefing.pdf)

Changes will be proposed by the Success Regime next month. There will be a consultation process until Christmas. Decisions will be announced in the new Year. One of the likely changes is a greater integration of health care and social care, with extended use of technology and supported housing. There will have to be a business case for changes.

Carol then introduced David (aka Dan) Newrick of the Campaign to Open Gilsland Station (<http://www.gilsland-station.org.uk>). After giving a brief history of the station he explained that with the opening of the Hadrian's Wall Trail and 25000 walkers passing the station site each year, a business case for re-opening the station could be made. A feasibility study gave a cost of £1.8million - £2.4million but suggested that each pound invested would return £1.80 in business so adding to the Gilsland economy.

Northumberland CC took the lead in taking up the project with Network Rail. However the report from Network Rail put the cost of re-opening the station at £28.64million for which a business case cannot be made. Some of the items contributing to this figure, such as those for footbridges further down the line and for changes to crossings in the area, seem to be only indirectly concerned with the station itself.

The meeting moved into the café for tea and biscuits. There, Keith Mellor of Border Rambler Bus (<http://www.borderramblerbus.co.uk/>) gave an account of how this community interest group was set up and details of the routes its bus now serves. Tuesdays and Fridays: Brampton (inc. Dacre Road), Irthington, Crosby, Carlisle and return;

Wednesdays: Brampton, Lanercost, Banks, Low Row, Gilsland, Walltown and return;

Thursdays: Brampton, Walton, Hethersgill, Scaleby, Brunstock, Carlisle and return.

NoW Card holders can use their card on the bus.

The Chair thanked the speakers and the meeting ended at 3:30pm

The next Forum meeting will be on Tuesday 15 November 2016.