

Highland Local Dental Committee

Minutes of meeting held 21st April 2021

Venue - Zoom.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
 2. Minutes of previous meeting
 3. Matters arising
 4. Scottish LDC conference motions and voting intentions
 5. AOCB
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PRESENT:

HA Hazel Adamson
ZA Zahid Ahmad
NB Neeraj Balli
JB John Barry (Chair)
LG Linda Garwood
SG Shona Grant
DMcS Duncan McSporrان
KP Karthikeyan Ponnusami
NW Neil Wallace (Secretary)

MINUTES

1. APOLOGIES:

EB Eddie Bateman
MD Matt Dickie (Vice-Chair)
CD Ciara Dunleavy
MJ Malcolm Jones
CMcL Cameron McLarty
LS Lynsey Smith

2. Previous minutes.

The minutes from the meeting held 30th March 2021 was proposed as an accurate record of the meeting by **JB** and seconded by **DMcS** .

3. Matters Arising from previous minutes.

- Barbara Simpson.
It was noted that the amount collected for Ms Simpson's retirement fund has now reached £1,300
JB still to present her with a cheque and a card thanking her for her service.
- Treasurer / Bank Account for the Highland LDC.
Andrew Cobban has agreed to be our treasurer. Bank Account action still ongoing.

- Covid payments / Colleagues being financially disadvantaged.
MJ has reported (via **JB**) that when a dentist leaves a practice the covid payment stops. It appears that covid payments remain a mystery and the implementation is erratic. **LG** reports that her associates are not getting much support.
NW to liaise with **LS** and report back next meeting as to how the covid support was affected when LS list was transferred to NW, and LS moved to a new practice etc...

4. Scottish LDC conference motions and voting intentions

On Friday 23rd April, **JB**, **MD**, **ZA** and **CD** will be our representatives at the Scottish LDC conference.

21 motions have been tabled for discussion.

Those present at tonight's meeting had a long discussion about several of those motions, the minuting of which overwhelmed our secretary (me) somewhat, however here are what I believe were some of the key points.

- Donald Morrison (Ayrshire LDC) has put forward a motion that any new SDR(s) should not be imposed without discussions with all LDCs.
Highland LDC to support this motion
- Simon Kidd (Glasgow and Greater Clyde LDC) has put forward a motion that LDC levy should be "opt out" not "opt in".
Highland LDC to support this motion in principle (as it would increase participation by dentists in the LDCs). However, we suspect this would be difficult to implement.

The following were discussed without conclusion.

- CDO should be elected by the profession, not simply a government employee. The term of office should be limited.
- The SNP manifesto bombshell about abolishing the patient charge for all groups. Whilst this is welcomed in theory, many present thought this couldn't happen without an increase in government spending on dentistry (unlikely) or a move towards a core service.
- **KP** mentioned that Tom Ferris (the CDO) wants us to give him input on how the SDR should be revised. **NW** suggested that was the CDO asking us to do his job for him, but suspected that should we fail to provide such input it may be taken as apathy on our behalf and used against us when we do not like any such new SDR.
HA said that the SDR should focus on prevention. "Childsmile" is considered a success. Childsmile was implemented by the Scottish Labour Party.

5. AOCB

- **KP** mentioned that in previous meetings we discussed working together for CPD purposes. **NW** to add to Agenda for discussion at next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

It was agreed to hold the next meeting on a Monday evening to enable other members to attend.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom - **Monday 24st May 7:30pm** .

NW to host and forward meeting invitations nearer the time.