

County Cllr Gareth Dadd
The Old Black Bull
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1st November 2015

Dear Jim

Lambert Hospital Action Group

After the sudden and shocking closure, temporary as it may be billed, of The Lambert In-Patients Ward here in Thirsk, it soon became obvious that this issue was of the greatest concern to local residents and the Community at large. Information was flowing ad-hoc and intermittently between various local organisations from the South Tees Trust. After trying to ascertain whom had been told what, and when, and receiving reports from other Groups that were struggling with various questions, it was decided to form a co-ordination Group for all Parties to work as one unit, hence LHAG has been formed.

The purpose of the Group is to give a channel locally for the sharing of information from The Trust and other 3rd parties, to allow Members of the Public to see that information and to act with a united voice on behalf of the community in both this "temporary" closure and any future decisions and consultation regarding the future of Community Care locally. LHAG is also determined to be a sensible and respectful platform for debate over these issues, and not simply a noisy forum unwilling to listen to the facts and issues as placed on the table by the local NHS and community alike.

LHAG comprises of representatives of the Town and Parish Council of Thirsk and Sowerby, all District and County Councillors from the Town, village and hinterland, Community representatives and the long-established Lambert League of Friends. It is Chaired by District Councillor Janet Watson.

At your meeting on Friday, I have been asked for LHAG's representative at the Committee David Tucker to be given permission to speak, and I may wish as local Member to add to the debate.

I do hope Jim that you will allow the above, circulate this letter to Members of your Cttee and perhaps ask the Clerk to send any information on this matter such as reports etc etc to LHAG for circulation to its Members through its Chair, e-mail address being cllr.janet.watson@hambleton.gov.uk.

My kind regards and best wishes

Yours sincerely

Gareth Dadd

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