

KEEP THE HORTON GENERAL



Keep the Horton General's reaction to HHOSC meeting

A large group of KTHG members attended the meeting organised by HHOSC in Banbury Town Hall on Thursday 19 September.

In response to the Clinical Commissioning Group's decision, made public the previous Monday, to permanently remove the Obstetric unit from the Horton, six speakers addressed the committee. These included MP Victoria Prentis, High Steward of Banbury Sir Tony Baldry, three Councillors and KTHG Chairman Keith Strangwood.

There could be no doubting the speeches' level of passion which was wholeheartedly supported by the committee members and Chairman, Arash Fatemian. Speakers described their reaction to the decision variously as 'staggered, profoundly disappointed, betrayed, furious' but with an absolute commitment to keep fighting for the people of Banburyshire. Cllr Mallon said he wanted to 'thank KTHG for the work they have done over the past 20 years' which was endorsed by Cllr Fatemian.

Of particular note was the praise for the mothers who had addressed the HHOSC meeting in December 2018. The Chairman promised that the committee would 'continue to be their voice'.

Charlotte Bird, KTHG Deputy Chair said 'anyone who attended that meeting will never forget it. The harrowing experiences, told with such eloquence and bravery, will stay with those that heard them forever. It is for those mums, and the mums of the future, that we will never stop campaigning until a full Obstetric service is returned to the Horton'.

The committee moved to refer the issue to the Independent Review Panel - via the Secretary of State for Health 'on the grounds that it is not in the best interests of local people' - if the recommendation is approved by the OCCG board on 26 September.
ends

20 September 2019

For more details contact our Chairman, Keith Strangwood:

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