

Combe Martin Public Meeting, Monday 10 October, 8.00pm

Pre meeting:

Andrea Davis has said that she will meet us before the meeting but I have still not heard back from her to be able to confirm time and venue. I will let you know once I hear from her. Phillip and Ian, I suggest that for now you come to our house for 6.00pm.

Either Barbara or myself will need to go to the Village Hall at 7.00pm to put out chairs, check the PA, etc. (though there will be some help available from the Village Hall Community Group members).

Preparations:

Scheduled start is 8.00 pm. We can allow 5 extra minutes if necessary, but let's aim to get started promptly. There is a stage but I think we should work from the floor to be close to the audience. We will have an Action Sheet (what people can do to support the campaign) and a See Red Day leaflet on every chair. There will be a table at the back with an Information/Question Sheet for people to sign up if they want to be added to the SOHS Facebook group, receive a copy of the STP or ask any questions that were unasked/unanswered. There will also be See Red Day posters for takeaway and SOHS badges for sale; we have asked someone to handle that. We'll have two SOHS placards at the front. Plus, Ian, you could bring the banner you had in the Pannier Market and we might be able to put that up. We will have a PA, which I'm fairly sure we will need to use. I'm checking out the setup tomorrow, but we should have 2 mics, one on a long lead. I envisage 1 at the front for Barbara, myself and then Phillip/Ian during the Q&A. The other will be for Pete to chair the Q&A. Pete, are you happy to be a roving chair, i.e. take the mic to the audience when they have a question? I suggest we start the meeting with just Barbara and I at the front; Pete, Phillip and Ian front of audience.

Running order:

Barbara will open. Welcome, practical details (toilets, emergency exits), thank yous (Parish Council for cancelling their meeting, St Peter ad Vincula for cancelling a meeting). Barbara will talk about how she got involved with SOHS and what it means for her. Barbara, I don't know if you want to mention what people can do to help? You could just refer them to the Action Sheet for details.

I will speak. Brief explanation of what the STP is and aims to achieve, followed by the key areas of concern: hospital beds, maternity/obstetrics, neonatal/paediatrics, stroke services, A&E. I will not overload as I would prefer fuller discussion to be audience driven in the Q&A or (in the unlikely event that they go quiet on us) Phillip/Ian driven.

I estimate perhaps half an hour for Barbara and I – Barbara, does that seem reasonable?

I will hand over to Pete to chair the Q&A. At this point Barbara and I will move aside and Pete, Phillip and Ian can come forward. Either I can introduce all 3 of you before handing over or Pete can introduce Phillip and Ian. Phillip and Ian, would you just like to be introduced as SOHS campaigners or should we say something more about

you? Phillip, I've not come across your surname before, can you please confirm how it's pronounced; rhyming with "burn"?

Pete, I'm sure there's nothing I can tell you about chairing an audience, but if you need anything just ask 😊

It's just my personal view, but I would like the people of Combe Martin to have as much opportunity to speak as possible, whether it's questions, concerns or opinions. Phillip/Ian, that doesn't mean you're on a short lead; say what needs saying 😊

We don't have a fixed end time and I have no idea how long things might continue. Does 1 hour seem reasonable for Q&A with the option to go longer if needed? At whatever point we decide it's time to end, Pete could you invite people to visit the table at the back and to feel free to talk to any of us further.

Pete closes. Thanks to everyone for coming.

Bobs' your uncle, Sally's your aunt and I go home for a kip 😊

All comments/questions welcome. Look forward to seeing you all. Thanks.