

Feedback from **The Community Voice** meeting  
held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at Mount Vernon Hospital

The guest speaker was Dr Peter Ostler – Director, Mount Vernon Cancer Centre. He described the latest achievements and future plans:

The much needed new chemotherapy suite is completed. It was charity funded at a cost of £1.43 million pounds. It contains 19 treatment chairs and 2 beds, 3 clinical assessment rooms, a counselling room, a pharmacy control area, enlarged waiting area and landscaped gardens. The treatment of patients started there on 1<sup>st</sup> February.

The Cancer Centre has the first Cyberknife in the NHS. There are two in London in private clinics. There are plans for 10 across the UK. It is a complex and expensive piece of equipment which will enable treatments that haven't been possible before. Charitable money - £ 4 million – was donated to fund it. The complex building to house it should be finished in May and treatments started in the Autumn. The aim is to treat 50 patients in the first year , building up to 150 each year.

New IT and related systems are being developed. These include a new PAS (patient admin system), a new database system and a new electronic chemo-prescribing system.

The Research and Development Partnership update – The Royal Marsden and Institute of Cancer Research is the preferred bidder and the agreement for partnership is going well. The first academic meeting will take place this Spring.

The next project is to finish the Mount Vernon site. The Cancer Centre is staying. The Hillingdon Hospital Trust will be building new wards. There is good joint working between Hillingdon and East and North Herts Boards and progress is being made on developments for the site. In 5 years the hospital will be smaller but modern.

There has been a lot of very positive progress but there is still a lot to do

Chairs Report:

National Car Parking Consultation –only web based and only 8 weeks. Need to reply.

Community Voice AGM in June . There will be an informal meeting in May

National survey of GP Practices – can see results

Need to report back re Herts LINK at next meeting.

JK Feb 2010