

# Northern Pensioners Association Crewe & District

www.npa-crewe.org.uk

## MEETING REPORT 26<sup>TH</sup> JANUJARY 2010

Members of the Northern Pensioners Association Crewe & District met for their first meeting of 2010 last Tuesday in Crewe Library.

They were updated on the public consultation being conducted by the NHS and were given statistics on the car parking facilities and charges at Leighton Hospital. They were also reminded of the help available with transport costs for visits to hospital for those on certain benefits.

A report from the Guardian on the compulsory fitting of feeding tubes to older people in some care homes for non-clinical reasons was met with anger and disbelief.

Similarly the proposal to add a £6.000 per annum "broadband" tax to home telephones was also condemned and there was a suggestion that we should boycott his charge and simply refuse to pay.

The meeting was updated on the parlous financial position of the PCT and warned that services may well be reduced. Similarly there is pressure on all departments in Leighton to save money. Many PCts have now dropped weight saving surgery but this has created the anomalous situation whereby overweight people may be tempted to put on weight in order to qualify for such an operation.

Members were also advised that the Community Urgent Care unit has now opened at Leighton

Next meeting is on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 2.00 p.m. in Crewe Library

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Chairlady: Barbara Smith, 70 Salisbury Avenue Crewe CW2 6JW  
Secretary: Hugh Emerson, 5 Ripon Drive, Wistaston, Crewe. CW2 6SJ. Tel: 01270 664645  
Treasurer: Joyce Smith, 7 Broadleigh Way, Crewe CW2 6TT