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PRESS RELEASE: For immediate publication

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- Friends Chairman welcomes new stroke clinic announcement – but warns caution

David Hayes, Chairman of the Friends of the Yeatman Hospital welcomed the announcement by Dorset County Hospital and Dorset HealthCare to provide a new dedicated rehabilitation unit for people recovering from stroke and neurological illnesses or injuries.

“ While I am pleased at the decision, to establish a stroke and neurological rehab unit we should not lose sight of the fact this is a 6 month pilot project, the aim of the Friends is to secure a long term future for the unit in the interests of all those in need of such care at the Yeatman.

“ Our discussions around the return of the Minor Injuries Unit and the appointment of a full time Matron will continue”

Interim Matron of the Yeatman Hospital, Helen Hunt, said: “This is a very exciting initiative for us at Sherborne. We already care for patients with rehabilitation goals but this opportunity will enhance our nursing skills further in the field of stroke and neurological illnesses.

“This joint venture is a positive step for the future of the Yeatman, and will make a real difference to patients in our community.”

END

Further information: Friends of The Yeatman Hospital: Tony Meehan 07768 850 855

NOTES TO EDITORS

A copy of the full announcement from Dorset HealthCare can be accessed through:

<https://www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/about-us/news-events/press/new-dedicated-stroke-and-neurological-rehab-unit>

The Friends of The Yeatman Hospital is a registered charity whose main aims are

- To provide funds to support additional facilities and equipment to contribute to the efficient running of the hospital;
- To work for the comfort and dignity of the patients;
- To encourage and foster public support of the hospital.

The Friends of The Yeatman Hospital – Registered Charity Number 1031326