BSCN spring meeting – Canterbury 5th/6th March 2015 – Hotels and travel

People wishing to stay in Canterbury might like to consider the following – none are exceptionally good or expensive (Canterbury doesn’t really do 5 star hotels!) but all should be adequate.

The Ebury Hotel – http://www.ebury-hotel.co.uk walking distance to the hospital and to town centre if not raining, people seem to have been happy here previously

Abbots Barton Hotel - <http://www.bw-abbotsbartonhotel.co.uk> close to the Ebury, no recent reports

Premier Inn - <http://www.premierinn.com/en/hotel/CANDOV/canterbury-city-centre?cmp=GLBC> a bit further from the hospital but nearer to the city centre – very new, no reports

Travelodge - <http://www.travelodge.co.uk/hotels/499/Canterbury-Chaucer-Central-hotel?utm_source=google&utm_medium=maps&utm_campaign=Canterbury%20Chaucer%20Central>

This used to be a Trusthouse Forte rather grand hotel years ago but now seems to be a budget Travelodge – no recent reports, similar location to Premier Inn

Abode - <http://www.abodecanterbury.co.uk> Louis Merton reported nice rooms and a good breakfast and some council members may remember dinner in the restaurant last time – very central for Canterbury, about 20 minutes brisk walk to the hospital.

House of Agnes - <http://www.houseofagnes.co.uk> On the opposite side of town from the hospital but reputedly very welcoming

There are many other small hotels and guest houses around Canterbury and in the surrounding villages if you are driving.

The meeting will be held in the postgraduate centre of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital (google map the postcode – CT1 3NG) which has very limited parking. The hospital car-parks are pay before departure at a machine and are usually full. The staff car parking, which has improved recently, is not available to visitors I am afraid. If you do come by car it may be best to use the ‘Park and Ride’ facility at the junction of the Old and New Dover Roads south of Canterbury and then take the dedicated shuttle bus to the hospital.

The nearest station is Canterbury East, Canterbury West Station is on the other side of town. On the other hand it is worth bearing in mind that Canterbury West is connected to St Pancras and can be reached on the high speed line in about 55 minutes, whereas Victoria station to Canterbury East generally takes 90-100 minutes. It’s about 15 minutes walk from Canterbury East to the Hospital though you may need a phone with mapping guidance to find the shortest walking route which uses a well hidden footbridge over the railway and some residential streets.

For those attending the council dinner on Thursday night this will be held at Deesons Restaurant in the centre of Canterbury, most of the above hotels are within walking distance. Menu selections will need to be made in advance. I will circulate the relevant menu to those who are attending shortly.

Canterbury itself is an attractive small town, dominated by the cathedral and with a good selection of museums, plenty of places to eat and a lively high-street for any accompanying persons.