

Minutes of PPG Meeting on 26th February

Present

Chairperson Alan Billington, Secretary Pat Fletcher, Dorothy Chambers, John Fletcher, Enid Gould, John Morris, Valerie Perez, Practice Manager Jo Shepherd, Administration/Reception Supervisor Helen Goodman, Doctor Di Biasio

Apologies

Jean Andrews, Denise Chenery, Maureen Nicklin, Patricia Halligan, Janet Bayne, Don Thake

1. The minutes were accepted.

2. Matters Arising

- a) The results of the questionnaire for the Institute of Innovation and Improvement are still awaited.
 - b) The PPG recruitment posters have been distributed. It was suggested that meetings could be held later than 6.00 p.m. so that younger people with family and work commitments could attend.
 - c) Helen Goodman has arranged for a pigeon hole in reception for communications between the PPG and surgery staff.
3. John Fletcher introduced the item on Terms of Reference and Objectives of the Group. He said that these were covered briefly in the Constitution of the group but also in two papers received by the Group at one of their initial meetings. There was some discussion on these papers and it was decided that John should be asked to try to combine all three into one paper. The Constitution would not be altered. John also agreed to contact Don Thake to see if the new paper met the requirements which he raised at the last meeting.
4. Three papers were distributed in relation to CCGs which are taking the place of the Primary Care Trusts in April of this year. One paper gave a background to some of the potential future health problems in the Ashford area. It drew attention to the increasingly large ageing population. Some 40 services which will be provided by the Community Services Trust were listed for the Ashford area. A second paper showed the commissioners and providers of Health and Social Services and the links between them and the CCGs. The third paper gave details of the clusters of Practices in the Ashford area with the Wye Practice clustered with the Willesborough, Sellenge and Appledore practices. The senior practitioner for this group is Lorna Loader.
5. Pat Fletcher expressed concern about the lack of current information about its PPG on the Wye Surgery web site. Helen Goodman agreed to update this but would be pleased to accept help from anyone else with the appropriate computer expertise. It was agreed that it is necessary to include this information or it appears that the PPG has become extinct.

6. Don Thake being absent, the PPG was unable to update its information on the progress of '38 degrees' petition against the privatisation of the Health Service. Jo Shepherd attended a meeting at which the speaker expressed the view that Jeremy Hunt, the new health Secretary, had encouraged rather than discouraged privatisation.,

7. Helen Goodman reported that she had booked the Wolfson Hall for the 26th March, since it was not available on 27th. The meeting will include a speaker on ovarian cancer, and another on ovarian cancer, the education of patients being one of the PPG's objectives. Our need for additional PPG members will also be announced. If it is possible to book the hall for 5.00p.m there will be a brief meeting of the PPG to prepare for our AGM in March.

8. Currently the Fund Raising Group has insufficient members. Enid is prepared to lead the Group and Jean Andrews has volunteered to be a member. Jo Shepherd agreed to represent the surgery on the Group. Volunteers to join the PPG and/or the fund raising group could be requested at our March meeting attended by the general public. The fund raising group need not be limited to meeting at 6.00 p.m.

9. AOB –

a) Pat Fletcher passed on to Helen Goodman information about reminding people about appointments, in order to reduce the number of missed appointments. Jo Shepherd said the issue was complicated by 'invasion of privacy' regulations.

b) Pat and John Fletcher reported concerns regarding the occasional inaccurate prescription of medicines at the chemist in Bridge Street, since this wastes drugs and the Practice's money. Medicines once labelled cannot be re-issued, even if rejected on the spot. The most that can happen is that they can be stored for future use by the patient. Jo Shepherd promised to investigate the possible source of errors.

c) Jean Andrews sent her thanks for the re-organisation of the surgery's waiting area.

d) John Fletcher thanked The Practice for securing an 01233 telephone number for the use of patients. It is working well.

10. The next short meeting of the PPG on 26th March in the Wolfson Hall will take place either before or after the meeting for the general public, at a time to be confirmed by Helen Goodman.