

FRIENDS OF ST LAWRENCE SURGERY (PPG)

Minutes of the committee meeting held Tuesday 1st November 2016 at 6.30pm in the education room

Present:

Bob Barden (Chair), Sue Pickering, Patsy Newton, Chris Moon-Willems, Judith Skitt (Treasurer), Phil Skitt, Eric Bridger, Dave Horton, Hilary Stoner, Carol Frogett, Diane Gough, Dr Catherine Joslin

Apologies:

Jo Wadey, Ian Leedham

The previous minutes held on the 27th September were approved

Treasurers Report:

Judith explained that not much had changed since our last meeting, book sales were £60.02 and donations were £22.52 and our total assets were £4814.52.

Due to the position of Secretary being vacant there are currently only two cheque signatories on the committee. The Chairman proposed a Resolution for the Assistant Treasurer Hilary Stoner to be added as a cheque signatory, and for the previous Secretary to be removed as a signatory. This was agreed unanimously. It was confirmed that this change meets the requirements of article 7:5 of the constitution.

Surgery News:

In the absence of Jo Wadey, Dr Catherine Joslin gave an update on the latest Surgery news and explained GP practices were facing a difficult time. There are discussions high in the NHS and it seems that next year, the hospital trust, the community trust (district nurses etc) and the mental health services trust are going to merge into one organisation. They will then decide on the services to be delivered to patients as one organisation and one budget. Dr Joslin said this maybe a very good thing in principle as it should avoid duplication and stop organisational boundaries getting in the way – we will wait and see.

Dr Joslin also reported that as GP practices are all independent businesses, it could be either a real threat or a great opportunity for us, dependent on what the new organisation thinks about us all in primary care. If it goes well, we could have a seamless NHS organisation and a properly funded primary care which means we can continue as we are - to have our own list and our own population and deliver more and more in general practice. If it goes wrong, we could all end up being swamped and taken over by this new organisation, losing our individual identities and independence and end up working directly for this new organisation. No GP Practice wants this to happen as we believe our patients would not like this. It could mean a single telephone number for all patients across Worthing. So if they want access to a GP or nurse, patients would have to see any nurse, GP or Paramedic that is available for the whole of Worthing, and not necessarily the nurses, GPs etc that you know from here.

Dr David Stokes and Jo Wadey are involved in the local negotiations and will keep us informed with further updates as negotiations progress.

Dr Read is leaving to go to Australia and The Chairman suggested a fossil as a leaving gift.

The surgery has received 1000 new patients from the closure of Highdown surgery and this has caused significant additional work on storing patients notes.

The 'Outstanding report' from the CQC was discussed and how the PPG has helped achieve this.

The Doppler machine was being put to good use reducing what was previously 40 minutes with a nurse to 10 minutes with a Health care assistant.

The Surgery carpets are to be replaced by a wood effect wipe clean surface as part of Infection control updates.

Some ideas that are being considered by the surgery include a collection box with facility to indicate what purpose the fund raising is for by itemising a short list of eg three items - Bob would explore this option via the Action for Deafness HQ. Also being discussed is the possibility an area set aside for a coffee machine.

There are two flu clinics left 8th November and 26th November (provisional).

The recent Patient education evening (stress/anxiety) was considered ok but improvements could be made with possibly the speaker more fully briefed. Also such sessions would benefit from a member of staff attending e.g. fire procedures, emergencies, feedback. The next event is Minor Ailments and Fit for Christmas on 29 November at 6.30pm.

Updates from Walking group, Singing group and Self-care group:

It was confirmed that CQC inspection group was impressed by the activities carried out by the PPG. Both the walking group and Singing group were specifically mentioned.

Eric explained the walking group was having a self financing charity walk on 15th November for a local charity to be decided by voting from the participants. The walkers Christmas lunch is on 6th December at the 'Cricketers'.

Phil informed us that Jean our choir leader hopes to return for 3 sessions before Christmas. Sue reported that the group is singing well and had some new joiners. Sue also said the singers had missed Phil and Judith's musical support and were looking forward to having them back.

National Self care week is 13th - 20th November and this was to be highlighted on the surgery's website.

Role of Secretary:

Bob raised the issue of Secretary vacancy and suggested advertising within the Surgery including on the display screens; also the possibility of a Powerpoint presentation forum on the PPG, who we are and what we do, before the AGM in May.

Fund raising, social activities and surgery support

The lottery numbers and Christmas draw was explained and it was suggested a rota for sellers be established. The Christmas meal is on Friday 16th December 7.00pm for 7.30pm, the cost will be £24.00 to include a glass of bubbly to celebrate our 20th anniversary and the recent CQC inspection outstanding result. A separate raffle will be drawn on the night with hopefully some donated prizes. Committee members were asked to donate a prize if possible.

Patsy offered to write the Christmas cards to isolated or house bound patients.

Eric said his wife will be making and selling her small decorated Christmas trees in support of the surgery.

Bob suggested that in place of our coffee and mince pie morning we should arrange a Christmas lunch together with the surgery staff, a suggested date of 22nd December to be explored.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.00pm

The next meeting will take place on 17th January 2017 at 6.30pm.