



HOLBEACH MEDICAL CENTRE **PATIENTS PARTICIPATION GROUP**

Minutes for the PPG meeting 28 October 2015

Present: Trevor Cook , Eilene Keeling, Iris Merson, Alan Piggins, Graham Scorthorne , Sue Scorthorne , Jackie Sheldrake, Joyce Waterfall, Val Watkin and Heather Whitehead

- 1. Apologies:** Mike Brett and Cindy Foley.
- 2. Presentation:** The meeting began with a presentation by Sue Wray, County Organiser for the Lincolnshire Neurological Alliance which was initially formed in 1998. Sue explained that the aim of the organisation was to provide support for all those involved with mental health issues such as: Autism, Alzheimer's, Ataxia, Brain injuries, Cerebral Palsy, Charcot Marie-Tooth, Dystonia, Epilepsy, Motor Neurone Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, Myasthenia Gravis, Parkinson's, Post-Polio Syndrome and Spinal injuries. She explained that the alliance wanted to help sufferers, carers and their families who often felt alone in coping with such conditions that affect 25% of the population. The organisation is a self-help charity planning to open a drop in centre in the centre of the county (possibly Sleaford) which will provide support and access to information. Leaflets outlining the organisation and how individuals may contact Sue have been left in the Health Centre, in The Market House in Long Sutton and in both Gedney and Holbeach churches. More information can be obtained by phoning 07788 119720 or emailing: lnahonsec@gmail.com

Sue was thanked for making the group aware of the organisation and for providing information for those who could benefit from its work.
- 3. Minutes of previous meeting:** Minutes of the meeting of 30th September were read and accepted.
- 4. Matters arising:** Comment was made that the Quiz currently being promoted to raise funds for the TV monitor for the waiting room had too many questions and that those taking part would have to use the internet to find all the answers. It was agreed that that would undoubtedly be the case but that if it raised money for the intended purpose that was great. Regarding the survey to be issued in January it was noted that Graham and Val would need to work on this soon.

5. **Chair's report:** Graham read a letter from Eilene Keeling explaining that because she had taken on a new role within Healthwatch she would no longer be able to be the PPG Healthwatch representative. On behalf of the group Graham thanked Eilene for starting the PPG and for all that she had contributed to the success of the organisation. She was wished success in her new role and advised that she would be welcome at the group's meetings whenever she was available. Graham pointed out that Healthwatch now produce a monthly E Newsletter which Val sent out to all PPG members by email. Individuals could sign up to receive the email directly if they so wished.
6. **Secretary's report:** Nothing further to report.
7. **Treasurer's report:** The PPG balance now stands at £1083.45 thanks to some money coming in from quiz sales. The money is being saved towards the purchase of the TV monitor which will be installed in the waiting room in order to provide patients with much needed information on health matters. Val provided a document which indicated that a 42" monitor for the surgery would cost £795 plus VAT. In addition installation costs plus the programming of the monitor would probably bring the cost up to £2000. This was a big reduction on earlier estimates and well received. It was hoped that the sale of quiz sheets would bring in some funds plus the Annual Santa Walk with Holbeach Rotary Club which this year will take place on Friday 11th December and cover the Netherfields area. Val hoped to have a final cost for the equipment for the next meeting.
8. **Healthwatch report:** Graham reported that the Healthwatch E Newsletter had been sent out to all members but he highlighted some of the issues : danger of respiratory problems during the winter months; the difficulty in discharging patients from hospital if they have no relatives or carers who can support them. It was noted that in Peterborough The British Red Cross have started a scheme to help with this problem; Glaucoma is being focused on at the present time. Opticians will spot the condition if people have their eyes tested regularly; October is Breast Cancer Awareness month; Carers Rights day is on 20th November; and Mr Jan Sobieraj has been appointed CEO for The United Lincolnshire Hospital Trust. He is very experienced in the NHS.
9. **News Correspondent's Report:** Sue stated that she planned to produce the next newsletter within the next few weeks. Other issues have prevented her from doing this earlier. She plans to promote the Quiz and Flu clinics in addition to other matters brought to her attention.
10. **Practice Manager's Report:** Val reported that Holbeach Medical Centre had been given a GOOD rating by CQC when they did their latest inspection. All staff and PPG members were delighted with the outcome. PPG Members praised Val and all staff

for their efforts. In addition Val reported that Boston CCG had appointed a Parkinsons' Nurse who would also cover our area.

- 11. Future Programme:** It was confirmed that NATALIE GOWAN will be attending the meeting on 25th November in order to talk about DEMENTIA issues. She is delighted to have been invited we understand. The next Board meeting will be held on 18th November at the usual venue. On 27th January 2016 one of our Receptionists will talk about "Life Behind the Screen" and our AGM will take place on 24th February. It is hoped that lots of people will attend the AGM and that some may wish to take on an officer role.
- 12. Fund Raising Ideas and Initiatives:** Graham has produced a **Quiz Sheet** with 100 questions. Please encourage people to buy a sheet before the closing date of 11th December. Sheets cost £1 each with proceeds going towards the TV information monitor. A Christmas Hamper will be the major prize. Joyce agreed to contact Val and work in the surgery at selling quiz sheets.

A raffle around Easter time is being worked on by Cindy and Heather. In addition all were reminded that the PPG would participate in the **Rotary Santa Walk** again on Friday 11th December with Mike having offered to be Santa!
- 13. AOB:** Concern was expressed over the fact that too few people attended meetings including the original members of the core group. It was hoped that more people would join and learn about important health issues and provide support for their local medical centre
- 14. Closure:** The meeting closed at 7.30pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for WEDNESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2015 AT 6.30PM.