



## Minutes of PPG Meeting at Firs House 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017

1. **Present:** Fei-Ni Toole (Chair), Dr. Simon Poole (GP Partner), Olga Starobinskaya (Office Manager), Sue Cox, Ian Copeland, Colin Eagleton, Denis Payne, Pam Lumsden, John Morris, Jean Newman, Sue Lee, Eileen Wilson

**Apologies:** Anonymous member, Lauren Allin, Helen Graham, Anna Hamilton, Rowland Ware

**Welcome:** FNT welcomed Roland Ware in absentia, to the PPG as a new member.

2. **Draft minutes of previous meeting and matters arising:**  
The minutes were agreed as accurate but some amendments to wording were agreed. There were no matters arising. **Action: FNT**
3. **NHS/ Practice Up-date – (SP)**
  - 3.1 The Department of Health which funds NHS England, has hitherto met any shortfall at the end of the financial year, when health authorities have overcommitted their budget allocation in addressing health issues in their area. In April 2017, the NHS reported that a Capped Expenditure Process (CEP) would be imposed to tackle overspend on some health conditions, was spiraling out of control.
  - 3.2 14 Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) areas have been identified for the CEP - it includes this local area. The 14 health areas will be mandated to achieve the required savings based on the clinical areas of overspend of each CCG - Measures such as imposed waiting lists for continuing care, and limits on prescriptions even if against the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) recommendations. No details have yet been released, but the process will be rigorously applied.
  - 3.3 The British Medical Association is balloting GPs to see whether they would be willing to close their patient waiting lists to new registrations.
- 4.0 **Practice Manager Up-date (OS)**
  - 4.1 Following Dr. Grande's retirement, there will be no senior partner at the Practice, but it will instead operate as the Firs House Partnership.
  - 4.2 Drs. Sally White and Sara Bastiani will be joining the Practice in September.



- 4.3 From the 1<sup>st</sup> September, repeat prescriptions will no longer be taken over the telephone. They can be requested online or in person with the repeat prescription slip.
- 4.4 The GP out-of-hours service will transfer to its new Addenbrooke's site on September 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 4.5 The Test-bed Project is part of the NHS 5-year forward plan, which the Practice is participating in. A number of options are being considered by the Practice to improve systems in order to take pressure off GPs.
- 4.6 Enhancements to repeat medication system – for certain patients who are on 2-3 drugs and whose condition is stable, doctors can authorise repeat medication requests for 6 months in advance. This is sent electronically to the dispensing pharmacy, enabling those patients to collect their medication from the pharmacy without going through the surgery each time.

## **5.0 Patient Assessor Feedback**

- 5.1 SL was a patient assessor for an assessment at Fulbourn Hospital. The assessments involve local people (known as Patient Assessors) going into hospitals as part of teams to assess how the environment supports the provision of clinical care, assessing such things as privacy and dignity, food, cleanliness and general building maintenance and, more recently, the extent to which the environment is able to support the care of those with dementia. SL's experience was very positive, the visit was well planned and well documented, and she felt her contribution was valued and taken heed of.
- 5.2 FNT was a patient assessor at Brookfields Hospital.

## **6.0 Updates**

Fen Edge Festival in Cottenham. The 3-day event drew record crowds from the surrounding areas. The PPG was awarded a grant from the Fen Edge Community Association (FECA), which will help us to continue and develop our community health promotion activities and raise the profile of the PPG. The PPG stall at the Festival on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June helped to promote our PPG and also raised some additional funds through the sale of raffle tickets for a Mediterranean style food hamper, and hula-hoops which drew interest from adults as well as children. A quiz for adults and one for young people to test their awareness of healthy lifestyle were well received, with many commenting that they had learnt something new from



it. Firs House/ Telegraph Street registered patients visiting the stall were encouraged to join the Virtual Patient Reference Group.

**7.0 AOB**

7.1 Parking of vehicles on double yellow lines in Kay Hitch Road near the surgery impedes access to any emergency vehicles. **Action: A polite notice drawing attention to this to be placed in reception/ newsletter. (OS)**

7.2 Pedestrians taking a short cut over the grassy area from Station Road across the car park to Firs House Surgery entrance pose a danger to themselves and patients driving into and out of the car park. Fencing to be installed and planting of shrubs should prevent this in the future.

**8.0 Next PPG Meeting: Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017 at Firs House Surgery**  
6.15p.m - 7.45p.m.