

**Minutes of Meeting held at 2pm at Chatlink on Monday 24th
April 2017**

Present: Kate Atkinson (Chair), Chris Isaac, Jess Bradfield, Alan Bunt, Carol Donaghey, Abigail Wilson, Margaret Parker, Barbara Brimacombe, Sheila Newell, John Staines, Joe Whiting (Sec.)

Apologies: Kristin Hunt.

Guests: Nicola Donlin & Lisa McEleny Rame Group Practice Research Group.

Nigel May Chair PPG Umbrella Group.

The meeting started with a warm welcome to our guests & an introduction to the committee.

Research

The Research group opened proceedings by explaining how they initiated & conducted their research projects by simulating their initial approach to patients. Funding for projects comes from charities such as Arthritis Care, Cancer Research etc & the big pharmaceuticals. It is hoped that future investigations will include Psoriasis, Dermatitis etc. Members were shown the recent trophy won by the group in a county-wide competition. From 20th May for one week the Research group together with Community Health Around

Torpoint (CHAT) & Mental Health will be sharing a window display at the premises of the Rame Peninsula Trust Group office in Millbrook.

The committee members were given a feedback form to be returned to the Research group on completion via the secretary. They were also given the opportunity to name the 'Research' teddy bear with the winner receiving teddy as the prize.

Information about the group is now posted on the new surgery website.

Nicola & Lisa were thanked for their presentation which proved to be both interesting & informative.

The Changing Role of PPGs

Nigel May was visiting the PPG (he is visiting other PPGs in the locality in due course) to gain an oversight on how the different groups operate. He focussed on the probable changes in the way PPGs were likely to operate in the future. Indications are, in the current parlous state the NHS finds itself in, that with more & more services being based within the community PPGs will of necessity have a greater role to play in supporting these health services. Much of this work is likely to be centred on Health Care centres & surgeries. Due to the escalating retirement of doctors & the difficulty of recruiting replacements smaller surgeries are likely to be closed.

Nigel commented that he was pleased to see that our group operated from a community resource rather than a surgery setting.

Secretary to forward recent email from Nigel to Research Group re possible investigation into high number of hip & knee replacements in local area as suggested by Paul Abrams.

The over-prescribing of drugs & other items on repeat prescriptions was mentioned as a constant drain on NHS funds particularly with the habit of stock-piling these items. Efforts are in hand to curtail such practices!

Nigel departed after thanking the committee for their invitation to the meeting & was likewise thanked for his attendance & his update on the future role of PPGs.

Business continued with acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting.

Surgery Meeting 11am 22/04/17

Liz Easterbrook confirmed that the practice does have a care plans for patients with complex needs.

Recent abuse of the use of the car park as observed recently by a committee member was mentioned & will be passed on to the buildings management team.

Cawsand surgery is still open on Tuesday afternoons & is likely to be so for the foreseeable future.

The results of the recent patient survey are now online.

Discussion revolved around the vexatious problem of 'missed appointments' & the possible use of social media. It was agreed that action to implement these projects needed to be brought to fruition as soon as possible & may need two small groups of interested members to achieve this.

Questions were raised concerning covering the cost of extra printing etc & the secretary confirmed that such reasonable items of expenditure by the group are covered in the practice annual budget. It was pointed out that the surgery in fact covered the cost of our room rental, petrol expenses for attendance at meetings outside the peninsula etc.

Members signed a card for Kristin who is currently unwell. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Alan Bunt indicated that he was stepping down from the PPG with immediate effect.

Next meeting: Monday 22nd May 2017

AGM at 2pm to be followed by Committee Meeting at 2.15 approx.

