



Minutes ASK PPG Meeting Held March 3, 2015 at Whitegate Medical Centre, Room 1 at 6 pm.

Members Present: Viv Critchley (VC); Susan Ransome (SR); John Butler (JB); Richard Watkinson (RW); Susan Stratton (SS); Ann Allen (AA); Mike Wain (MW); Gavin Quick (GQ)

Apologies Received: Jo Booth (JB)

Chairs Remarks: JB advised he hoped no more meetings would be held at the Highcross, he had found it difficult to follow what was said. He also had some "I am deaf" cards for distribution – these are for people who are hard of hearing to show when boarding a bus – the destination would be filled in on the card. RW also made mention of a visit he had made to Alexandra Residential Home where a service is operated of volunteers making talking editions of local papers, books etc for the partially sighted. MW agreed to take the details so he could make contact with the Home and also that partially sighted members of the practice could be informed of the service. RW also asked for permission to film the meeting for later publication on the website and elsewhere. This was agreed by all.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: These were agreed as true and correct.

Matters Arising: We were informed that an app for medical records being available online would be available on the website in a couple of weeks.

JB advised EMIS are due to do a presentation at the hospital and he would provide details if requested.

In response to a question MW advised flu jabs are normally 40-50% effective, but this year unfortunately it appeared they were only about 2-3% effective. This still meant many lives were being saved. Changes to the jab were not available because they had to be manufactured well in advance due to the sheer volume required. This did mean unfortunately some years an odd mutation might not be anticipated.

MW also advised that a change in the booking system now meant people could make an appointment for that day, but also if an appointment was required in advance patients were being told to ring in 2 weeks to make an appointment. This had resulted in 160 less DNAs.

Memory Testing: This facility is now on offer to the over 50s every Thursday afternoon at Adelaide Street and as from 24 March would be available every 2 weeks at Kentmere Drive. The intention is to be proactive and do this by bookable appointments, but if possible tests on the day can be done.

Open Day: There is as yet no date for this – It is still intended to be in the summer at Kentmere Drive.

EMIS Prescriptions: MW agreed to do a step by step presentation for putting on the website.. This should be put up in the next couple of days. He also agreed to investigate the possibility of this presentation also going on the practice TV screen.

AOB: GQ advised Healthwatch Blackpool Ltd had recently lost the tender for supplying Healthwatch services in Blackpool to Empowerment. He also made mention of the Carers Association holding a ball for carers and that each practice was not only entitled to attend but also to take a carer to it. This year's theme is Cinderella.

Each member was then encouraged to bring an idea for taking the PPG forward to the next meeting. This would also be the AGM.

Date of Next Meeting – 14 April, 2015, Whitegate MC at 6 pm in room 1.