



## MINUTES

Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2019 7pm

Mountfield Village Hall

**Attendees:** Steve MacDonald SM, Martine Blaser-Smart MB-S, Alison Sarson AS, Jenny Daniels JD, Sally Slyfield SS, Pam Underhill PU, Elodie Lanworn EL, Geoff Thomas GT, Tanja Conway-Grim TC-G, Henry Domer HD (Darvel), Susan Prochak SP (Helping Hands), John Schultz JS (Age Concern)

**Apologies:** David Daniels DD, Annie Rodgers AR, Keith McPherson KM, Libby Looseley LL, Sue Peters SP

The PPG met at Mountfield Village Hall because of the challenges in opening and closing Practice premises without a member of the Practice in attendance. LL was on a course for this and the next meeting.

**Apologies for the abbreviated minutes – I was note taking and leading the meeting.**

### Items:

#### 1. Welcome and introductions

Everyone introduced themselves and a warm welcome was given to members attending for the first time.

#### 2. Minutes / items from last meeting

OS Action from 18Mar19:  
Confirm with LL that JD finance flow chart was circulated to all.

#### 3. Update on Action Plans

Copy of the Action Plan for JD – SM to email after update.

#### 4. Update on Meetings Attended

None

#### 5. Budget

No expenditure (Mountfield Village Hall arranged by AS at no cost).

## **6. Events and meetings coming up**

On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April it is Dr Mucci's talk on 'Avoiding Frailty in Old Age' at Sedlescombe Village Hall. (an excellent hour's presentation – full update at next meeting)

## **7. How will we interact with online members and Multi-Media Content**

There was a discussion about how we could engage more widely with the patient community.

SM stated that he was unsure how to develop Twitter as a medium for the PPG to engage with our communities. TC-G stated that she was happy to take on supporting Twitter when she had completed an introduction to it in the next few weeks.

MB-S said that she would speak with the Robertsbridge Parish Clerks and get the PPG added to the Parish website as a local organisation/group.

The possibility of getting health promotion articles into the local 'free' village periodicals was discussed. TC-G offered to write an article a month for publication, providing that she was given topics and the core material. GT, MB-S offered to 'proof read' the articles before publication. SM suggested that LL was also asked to proof read so that the contents aligned with the Practice.

Topics for inclusion identified were 'The Dr Mucci Talks', 'recruitment of online members' and NHS campaigns such as Flu jabs etc. GT stated that we needed to be cautious about undertaking activities that should be conducted by the surgery. SM suggested that we would be promoting the campaigns in communication channels not open to the surgery.

One theme for Fb promotion identified was that of mental health.

MB-S stated that she would write an article for the Robertsbridge Villager promoting the role of the PPG.

There was some discussion about how to better engage with Battle patients – Battle doesn't have a Fb page like Robertsbridge, Hurst Green etc. The consensus arrived at was that SP and KM represent Battle at PPG meetings, and that meetings would continue to be held at alternate venues to encourage attendance from both community 'hubs'.

TC-G, MB-S, EL and SS made 'admins' of the Fb page – able to post items of interest onto the page.

There was a discussion about what items would be most appropriate to be covered on Fb – which themes, whether they should be following national campaigns.

*SM to look into deleting the original' Fb page to prevent it causing confusion.*

## **8. Future Events/ Activities**

SM (with AS, MB-S, JS) met with the Chair of Rother PPG Forum ( Kevin K) briefly after the Dr Mucci presentation and *agreed to meet in May* for SM to be briefed on the Rother perspective and to develop ideas for future activities.

Walking was again discussed as an activity that creates a social opportunity as well as encouraging mobility and fitness. As the 'patient grouping' for this event would be most likely elder patients, the discussion identified the challenges of identifying a suitable distance and route(s).

(Since meeting – Steve in contact with East Sussex Health Walks Project Officer to see what might be arranged – Battle has walks, Robertsbridge to be pushed forward as a location, and walks in both centres to be promoted by PPG).

## **9. Issues raised by/for patients**

Members suggested that a drop kerb be considered opposite the entrance to the surgery. The footpath on the N side of Station Road in Robertsbridge is intermittent. The one on the S side is high. Those in wheelchairs or with buggy's find it a challenge to cross the road safely. *SM to raise with Sean O'Neil* (Parish Council).

It was suggested that the timing of the parking prohibition in Station Road be amended to the same hours as the Surgery lunch so that patients could park there at other times if there was free space. Currently as there is no enforcement the road is occupied all day by commuters' vehicles. *(SM to raise with SO'N)*.

## **10. Date & agenda items for next meeting**

The next meeting is: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May at Mountfield Village Hall (LL on course) at 7PM.

## **11. AOB**

TC-G stated that she was undertaking surveys on behalf of East Sussex Council on health premises to identify how they could be made more autism friendly. She offered to include both Surgeries in her work. *SM to ask LL whether the practice would like to be included and surveyed.*