

COMMUNICARE

(Wansford & Kings Cliffe Surgery Patient Participation Group – PPG)

Minutes of 40th AGM held at The Christie Hall, Wansford – Thursday 21st October 2021

PRESENT – Rev D.Parkes (Chairman), Mr D.Hellard (Vice-Chair)

Mrs W.Spencer (Secretary), Mrs C.Wagstaffe, Mr P.Philipp, Dr R. Nally, Mr S.Fairhall,
Mrs P.Fairhall + 18 patients

APOLOGIES: Mrs L.Freeman (Treasurer), Mrs H.Gough, Dr H.Eastwood, Mrs K.Lawes
(Practice Manager), Ms A.Johnson (Asst. Practice Manager), Mr P.Wright + 4 patients

Rev Parkes welcomed everyone to the 40th AGM

1) MINUTES OF LAST AGM MEETING – Tuesday 10th September 2019

As there had been a long time lapse between the last AGM and this meeting it was agreed that the minutes from 2019 would be considered as a true record – no matters arising were proposed.

2) Chairman's Report

Rev Parkes expressed his thanks to both the practice and his co-officials for their diligence in maintaining services during what had been a very difficult two years. Liaison between the PPG and surgery had continued by internet meetings often preceded by separate meetings of the officials. The PPG had continued to be represented on the Peterborough Forum where interaction between the various local PPGs proved beneficial – this was also the case with the Patient Reference Group where PPGs met up with representatives from the CCG to discuss policy and future plans.

Understandably fund raising had been non-existent but donations over the two year period totaled £4775 – monies had been provided by the PPG to enable the practice to purchase equipment to a value of £3035 for the benefit of patients. A further £4000 had recently been passed to the Kings Cliffe Active community garden project – this was at the request and with the agreement of the donor.

Both in 2019 and during recent weeks, drive through flu clinics at KCA had delivered a very efficient and convenient method for patients to receive their vaccinations for which he commended the practice staff.

A survey had also been carried out in and around Kings Cliffe by the PPG to ascertain patient views on the future provision of healthcare services in the area – there had been a 27% response from Kings Cliffe residents. A similar survey by Kings Cliffe Parish Council using Facebook had resulted in a 19% response rate. Both surveys provided valuable information for future planning by the Practice.

With the imminent replacement of the CCGs by newly formed Integrated Care Systems in April next year, hard lobbying had taken place both by the practice and the PPG to ensure that the surgery remained within the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough system, thereby allowing patients to continue to be referred to the hospitals in our area. The alternative would have been for the practice to be placed in the Northamptonshire region resulting in patients having to attend either Kettering or Northampton hospitals. Thankfully, the concerted action was successful.

The Chairman read out a short report prepared by Mrs Freeman, Treasurer, on the financial position of the PPG – the remaining balance of funds as at 31st July 2021 stood at £1173.35 plus the 200 Charifund Units which were valued at £3063.54

(2)

3) Re-election of Officials

All seven officials had indicated their willingness to continue in office – it was therefore agreed to accept this item without the need for re-election procedure. However, the Chairman made a

request for younger people to come forward and join the committee – their input as the upcoming generation could be invaluable. It was noted that such a scheme had been instigated at the Oundle practice with young representatives from both the major schools in the town being included in PPG activities.

The official business of the AGM was then concluded and followed by the guest speakers.

Dr Rhiannon Nally: Practice Matters

Dr Nally gave a resume of the working practices that had been introduced as a result of the pandemic which had been immensely challenging. Remote appointments by phone or web-video, although not to everyone's satisfaction, had maintained a reasonable level of connection with patients and if there had been an urgent need for face to face appointments, these had been made available.

The practice size has now increased to 8700 patients and taken in conjunction with the investigation into the KC survey it became clear that provision of services should continue in some form at that location – the situation will be kept under review.

There were now five female doctors working at the practice with an additional two male part-time doctors attending on certain days. Dr Nally stressed the difficulties in recruiting good doctors but felt that we are now fortunate to have a fairly stable workforce. She was also very pleased that other professionals had joined the team – social prescribers, well-being coach, as well as others from voluntary groups who can provide assistance with lifestyle improvements and mental health issues.

It was confirmed that Dr Amrit Takhar had now retired from the practice but was still maintaining an interest in various research projects carried out at the surgery. Dr Nally is now the senior Partner and is pleased to be joined by Dr Helen Eastwood as the second Partner.

Dr Rhiannon Nally: Integrated Care Systems

Despite attempts to arrange for a representative of the CCG to attend the meeting to talk on this subject, unfortunately no member of their staff proved available. They had, however, provided a powerpoint presentation which had been used recently at the Peterborough Forum of PPGs.

Dr Nally kindly stepped in to provide a commentary on this subject.

The structural changes will take place in April next year when ICSs will replace the existing CCGs as the overall body, with two ICPs formed to cover the north and south of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area. Within these ICPs there will be further groups of practices each group consisting of around 50K patients.

The vision of the changes is to bring health and social care under one umbrella with a better and fairer distribution of resources, both financial and staffing. It will also provide the opportunity for levelling up of areas where more resources are badly needed.

As mentioned in her practice report, Dr Nally reiterated her relief that Wansford would be included in the C&P area thereby preventing disruption to patients' current referral arrangements.

There was some discussion on the issue of discharge from hospital and the consequent problems which had to be addressed in trying to get patients back to a more self-sufficient level within their own homes.

(3)

Mr Simon Fairhall: Kings Cliffe Active Garden Project

(Chair of the Trustees of Kings Cliffe Active)

Mr Fairhall had provided copies of his presentation to hand round and this was replicated on his screen slides. The project is currently 'work in progress' but is receiving support from various organisations and gardening supplies are being sought from local businesses. Volunteers will be the mainstay - so far interest seems to be high and community meetings are planned to further promote interest in the project.

He explained the layout of the area and where raised beds, groups of trees, seating, etc would be provided. It is also hoped to open a small café and a possible bowling green in the future.

Mrs Pip Fairhall then spoke about her role as the Health and Wellbeing Coach at Wansford surgery – along with the many activities that are available at KCA to help people maintain a healthy and active life, she is now able to offer patients involvement in the garden project.

The meeting then dealt with a small number of questions from the audience and finally the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, the guest speakers for their contributions and also the officials who had provided light refreshments. Proceedings closed at 8.30pm