

Minutes of the meeting of Nettleham PPG held on the 19th March 2025 at Nettleham Bowls Club at 12 p.m.

**Present** Dave Head (Chair), David Pape (VDS Co-ordinator), Betty Pape (Minute taker), Lesley Hodgson (Treasurer), Dr Phil Williams, Stacey Forbes-Oakley (NMP), Steve Hawes, Dave Rowley, Jane Sharman, Peter and Jackie Greenfield, Pam and Alan Henderson.

**Apologies** Ingrid Atkins, Christine Clarke, Dinant Hagens, Gill Rowley, Barbara Milns, David and Ros Burrows, Brian Hodgson.

Dave H opened by welcoming all to the meeting.

**Surgery** Dr Phil reported that it is a busy time for the surgery with many changes ahead. The scrapping of NHS England by the government will affect the surgery more than patients and it should release funds for frontline surgery. As reported at the last meeting the surgery is part of an NHS England pilot scheme. This has made it possible to employ an extra GP, receptionist and healthcare assistant which means it should be possible to open Cherry Surgery 5 days a week. It is hoped this will be in place by May.

The ICB has done a review of enhanced services offered at the surgery but which are not economically viable. Therefore from the 1st April services such as Warfarin monitoring, dressings, stitch removal etc will not be provided at the surgery. In reply to a question Dr Phil said 2 nurses are shortly leaving but there is still plenty of work for those remaining. Dr Phil said that all patients affected will be notified and it will be put on facebook. The aim is to protect core funding for frontline staff with 3 aims - continuity of care, access and sustainability.

The surgery is changing to System Connect from AskMy GP. This change should be better for all concerned but it will mean a culture change. It is hoped that within 24 hours of putting in a request that it will be dealt with and the patient notified of the outcome. It is expected that

the hours the service is open will gradually increase so that the surgery can cope. Dr Phil asked if PPG members would volunteer to do some sessions in the waiting room supporting the changeover and to help patients feel positive about the changes. 6 people volunteered and the surgery will contact Dave H regarding a training session. Dr Phil will look into if transport requests could be tagged into the new system.

2 new Doctors and a Registrar are shortly joining the surgery. 2 new consulting rooms are planned for Nettleham.

Quotes are being obtained for car park marking, dropped kerbs and fixing of potholes.

From the 1st April Covid vaccinations will start and RSV are ongoing.

**Treasurer** Lesley reported a balance of £2623 and said February had been a record month with an income of £233. The books and jigsaws continue to do well. £2000 had been donated to re-cover the chairs. Lesley asked if anyone knew an auditor who would look over the books. Dave H would make inquiries.

**ICB update** In the absence of Robin no update was available.

VDS David P started by thanking all the drivers for their hard work. More drivers are needed and Dave H will contact members who arrange adverts in local magazines and the surgery will put it on their facebook page.

For the 3 days commencing March 31st both David and Dinant are on holiday so Steve will take the calls.

He told Stacey that mistakes are beginning to creep into the sheet again, cancellations are not always notified to him and staff are not always aware who is on call - Stacey will take all this back to the surgery. He also asked if, when there is staff training, he could have a slot to inform staff of how the VDS works in practise.

**Chair** LCC has formed a Consortium for Voluntary Transport Operators and in future they will only supply DBS and Safeguarding services. Since they will not supply badges he will look into having them professionally made.

He asked if anyone from the group would be willing to take on the role of Facebook Admin. for the surgery website but no-one volunteered.

**A.O.B.** Lesley had recently attended a research session looking at obstacles to Doctors coming to Lincolnshire. She had found it to be very informative and worthwhile.

Peter thanked the driving service for all the help they continue to give him due to his ongoing health issues.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.50 p.m.

Date of next meeting TBC.