

ALBRAM Patients' Group

**Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 14th January 2025 at Alconbury Surgery.
6.00pm**

Present: Jacqui Richmond (Chair), Steve Cole (Secretary), Dr Duncan Outram, Melanie Gearing, Dave Russell, Christine Bland (interim Treasurer), Philip Norton, Adrienne Coulson, Mick Gunney

Welcome

JR (Chair) welcomed everyone and asked if they all had a good festive time over the Christmas and new year period. Repeated the confidentiality agreement before the meeting started at 6pm.

Apologies for absence:

Alasdair Gardener. Hammy Anderson and Linda Parkhouse.

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8th October 2024 at Brampton Surgery

Minutes were read, adopted unanimously and duly signed by JR.

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Update from the Treasurer:

CB circulated the income and expenditure sheet. **Income £4376.76.** Christmas raffle £1411.00, Driver donation (Brampton) £500.00, Carol singing Alconbury £293.00, Thrift shop (Brampton) £400.00, Alconbury district show £75.00, other monies from combined authority, book sales, patient donations. **Expenditure £1540.73. Balance £6310.16.**

There is a sum of £471.50 donation from Dorothy Lamacraft for two surgery chairs.

The accounts were confirmed and accepted.

Car Scheme Report:

PN gave a report from the Albram car scheme. We have 11 drivers in Alconbury and 12 in Brampton with two new drivers in the process of being checked and await documents. We are awaiting payment for one quarter by the combined authority and the last one is being finalised to send in. We urgently need two coordinators as SC and PN are filling these vacancies at present and recruitment of drivers is ongoing. Patient requests are increasing from both surgeries, and the drivers have stepped up and meeting that extra demand for drives. A drivers meeting was held in December 2024 for all Alconbury drivers which was well attended.

Still have an overlap with drivers ID and DBS renewal. JR suggested a spreadsheet and drivers are warned three months prior to expiry date to renew.

Coordinator Vacancies.

SC gave a report. This is a highly successful 5 star rated volunteer car scheme and greatly appreciated by all the patients that use it and a huge thank you for that success

is the hard-working drivers who give both surgeries great PR. Most of the journeys are to either surgery or Hinchingsbrooke Hospital followed by Peterborough Hospital, Addenbrookes and Papworth.

We need two new volunteer coordinators, but we have been unable to recruit anyone so far. Alconbury in October and November were extraordinarily busy. Average calls per month are about 45, October reached 70 and November 80. If that became the normal it is not sustainable by one operator as it becomes a full-time job.

Relief coordinators in Alconbury is MG and DP, if supported by MG. Currently Brampton does not have one, but one driver has asked to be shown what is involved. A discussion took place over how to find new volunteers.

Christmas Raffle.

This was an extraordinarily successful Christmas raffle organised by MG who organised sales of the tickets, prizes, and the raffle draw, assisted by others with further donations and sales. The raffle raised £1411.00 A thank you went out to MG from the committee.

The proceeds will go toward an integrated ECG machine. The raffle this year was in a new format of £1.00 per ticket and a selection of main prizes along with other donated gifts.

AGM 2025.

This will now be held at Alconbury Memorial Hall on Wednesday 16th July 2025 from 6pm onwards. The hall is booked and confirmed.

Doctors shopping list.

Just waiting for the team to agree which model of ECG machine to purchase, it is hoped it will be an integrated version to allow direct download of information to a computer. The two chairs and memory plaques will be ordered shortly on behalf of Dorothy Lamacraft.

Surgery Matters.

Patient numbers have risen to 14165 and new patients are being taken on to encourage new growth. We have 53 staff and 20 additional staff via the network. 12 doctors plus trainees.

Correspondence.

CB sent a letter of thank you to the organiser of the Alconbury Fete. JR will respond to Mrs Chitty at the Brampton Thrift shop for their donation.

Fund raising using the ECG machine as a target is attractive and gives purpose to patients knowing what they are giving for.

Next meeting.

April 8th, 2025, 6pm at Brampton surgery.

Meeting closed at 7.10pm