

HADDENHAM PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Minutes of Meeting held at 7.00pm on Thursday 4th June 2015

Present: Keith Milmer (Chairman), Barry Lynch (Vice Chairman), Dr M Howcutt, Ellen Solley (Practice Manager) and 21 others

1 **Practice Report**

Dr Howcutt explained that test results including blood tests are going to be made available online. Leaflets explaining this and inviting comments were being distributed and he hoped that feedback could be given by the end of the month. The work to repair the flood damage should be completed by the end of July. There will be some disruption so please bear with us. All the workmen are supervised and are not allowed into private areas to ensure that there will be no breach of confidentiality. Dr Howcutt requested feedback about the information displays and the screenshow monitor in the waiting room showing specialities and interests of the doctors and nurses. Is the information suitable? Does it help the patients to choose a practitioner? Dr Mayer has completed his GP training.

2 **Government Promises for 24hr GP Cover**

The PPG Chairman invited comment from the Practice in response to recent Govt promises of 24 hour GP care. Dr Howcutt explained that we already have access to a GP at any time, day or night, seven days a week – either at the Medical Centre during surgery times or through the local out-of-hours cover. Also, for over-75s, there are same-day appointments available and an NHS response within 24 hours – if not in your own surgery, then within the county. There is a need to increase access to the Surgery but this is not possible at the moment as there is a shortage of GPs, and money promised by the Government has yet to be distributed

3 **Tribute to Felicity Hilder OBE**

Felicity Hilder sadly passed away recently. The Chairman delivered a tribute to her. She will be greatly missed and she was a great supporter of the PPG.

4 **Donation by PPG**

£1000 has been donated by the Haddenham Village Fete fund to the Haddenham Medical Centre PPG for the purchase of medical equipment. Dr Howcutt stated that a Dermatoscope machine to look at skin lesions will be purchased. Dr Munir has undertaken to take specialist training to use the device and establish the preferred equipment to purchase.

5 **New Equipment Purchased**

Nurse Jenny Pullen extended thanks for the Dopplex machine that had been purchased in recent months from funds raised by the PPG. It has been well used already. It suits all sizes of people, as well as offering the possibility of being used outside the Medical Centre to assess housebound patients.

6 **Update on Proposed Bungalows and Dental Practice Development**

AVDC rejected the plans on two basic grounds: i) the development was perceived to be too cramped and ii) it was felt to set a precedent for development beyond the nominal village envelope. The details of their refusal can be seen on the AVDC website under the application reference 14/02309/APP.

7 **NAPP and Other Patient Representative Groups**

We have no representative to attend the National Association for Patient Participation (NAPP) annual conference taking place on the 6th June. It was not too late to register, even at this late stage. However, little enthusiasm was evident among PPG members. On 18th June 2015 in Aylesbury at the Multi-Cultural Centre a Bucks and Milton Keynes Patient Forum taking place. All health professional and members of the public are invited. Keith and Barry are likely to attend on behalf of the Haddenham Medical Centre PPG.

On Tuesday 30th June in High Wycombe from 10.15 – 1.pm there will be an event for Carers and those who are being cared for in hospital or in the community, so please feel free to attend.

8 **Any Other Business**

Whilst the blood tests results online would make it easier for all concerned, Dr Howcutt explained that should an abnormal result appear, action will be taken promptly by the doctor. It is not possible to notify all patients of normal test results.

The facility for booking appointments online is still available, although it is acknowledged that it is not always easy to find a slot. The telephone triage system is working very well.

The U3A queried why a female patient who was seen by paramedics was not given an immediate GP appointment. Dr Howcutt wanted to assure everyone that paramedics are highly trained and capable professionals. If their judgement was that the lady did not need to go to A&E, then her needs were not urgent by definition. GPs do not and cannot offer an A&E service – that is the role of the Hospital. Dr Howcutt believed that the paramedics spoke with a doctor who decided she could be seen the next day. Paramedics generally discuss with a GP all patients they are not transferring to hospital. The patient in question was seen by a GP next day, and this was the appropriate action.

Defibrillators in Haddenham are to be found in the station, the playground, the telephone box, the library and the surgery. They are locked and if needed you need to call the number on the box and follow the instructions. It is not universally accepted by all members of the PPG that this is a good target for public fundraising activities.

9 **Date of the Next meeting -** This was agreed as Wednesday 9th September at 7.00pm.