

Knebworth and Marymead Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

Minutes of the Full Meeting 27th February 2018
at Knebworth Surgery 7pm

Leader: Graham Fothergill, **Minutes:** Mandy Preedy.

- 1. Present:** Graham Fothergill (GF), Dave Bartlett (DB) Gill Bartlett (GB), Mia Cater (MC), Rosie Chisnell (RC), Tony Stowe (TS), Tony Dollimore (TD), Joy Hall (JH), Ken Spooner (KS), Amanda Preedy (AP), Angela Dormewr (AD), Sharon Kay (SK), Jan Burt (JB), Melanie Belhaj (MB, guest speaker from CAB)

Apologies: Chryssie Cobbold, John Townend, Mike Pye, Linda and Peter Martin, Brian Jones, Robert Neave, Abi Watkiss, Clive Steele

- 2. Declarations of Interest:** None.

- 3. Minutes and Matters Arising from Meeting held on 30th January:** Agreed and no matters arising.

- 4. Presentation by Melanie Belhaj, Advice Session Supervisor at CAB.**

Melanie gave a very interesting talk about the work of the CAB and how to access the services. The advice phone number is 03444 111 444. The web site is www.stevenagecab.org.uk where advice via email is also available. Questions afterwards were from RC- does the CAB have a lawyer, to which MB answered no. GF asked how they were funded, MB explained they were funded by a number of bodies including: Stevenage Borough Council, DWP, Comic Relief, Herts County Council and Stevenage Community Trust. GF also asked if the CAB can help with Continuing Health Care (CHC), Melanie said they could and would refer clients also to Money Advice Service. Please see their website for all details.

- 5. HYTH on 25th July at Knebworth Village Hall at 7pm.**

Update on speakers: subjects to include Syncope, Diabetes, Osteoporosis, Public Engagement. Stalls to include Lister Volunteers, Hertswise, Fostering. TS to confirm details of Public Engagement speaker, JH to confirm Hertswise stall, AP to confirm Osteoporosis, Syncope, Diabetes speakers, Lister volunteer, Sepsis and Beezee Bodies stalls. All details to be finalised by end of May.

6. Dementia Carers Support Group Update

JB reported that we now have five Admiral Nurses in Hertfordshire. Their official launch is at Mill Green Golf Club on 6th March; JB will speak to explain the history of Admiral Nurses who are currently looking after 134 families locally. JB also went to a Dementia Advice session at Knebworth Care Home who offered the use of their community room with free refreshments for a future coffee morning. JB to arrange for the summer.

7. Practice Update

KS spoke about the forthcoming extended phlebotomy appointments and on the restrictions on Over the Counter prescriptions and gluten free foods. KS asked for any complaints about the latter to be addressed to the CCG at Charter House, WGC. JB asked if there were exceptions to the restrictions to which KS confirmed that there would be in cases of financial hardship. The Practice now has an Advanced Nurse Practitioner(ANP) on 4 days a week, which is freeing up doctors' appointments and SK reported that patients are commenting how successful this is. The ANP Service is on trial for 3 - 4 months as the surgery is funding it. Lisa Underwood's role as Clinical Pharmacist is working well and Lisa works very closely with the doctors. KS has met with residents from St Martin's Road to reassure them that access to the new surgery site by contractors will be discussed with them in advance.

8. Pharmacists Meeting, 7th March

GF offered his apologies for being unable to attend as the PPG representative and requested another Officer attend. No volunteers.

9. COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) Web-based Monitoring and Education

There is an NHS approved app which can be used on phones, tablets and PCs, which the Practice will consider using. Our Practice has the highest emergency attendance for COPD in the locality; we have 250 COPD patients who are given "rescue packs" in case of problems.

10. March Newsletter

SK asked that an article to remind patients to nominate a pharmacy following the closure of one of the Lloyd's branches in Knebworth. GF asked for all ideas for other items to him by 10th March.

11. AOB

1. GF showed an article re social prescribing and the benefit of coffee mornings. The PPG has had monthly coffee mornings since 2016 which are greatly appreciated by patients and a useful way to communicate with patients. GF asked if this could be extended to weekly coffee mornings. AP and AD replied yes, if there were volunteers to run them. No offers were received.
2. AP reported that the pads on the Knebworth defibrillator were out of date and had been replaced at a cost of £44, paid for from PPG funds.

**The next PPG Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 27th March at 7.00 pm.
All patients are welcome to attend.**

PPG Meetings for 2018

	Full PPG Tuesdays 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm	
March	27	MM
April	24	K
May	22	MM
June	19	K
July	25 HYTH Knebworth Village Hall	
August		
September	25	MM
October	23	K
November	20	MM
December	18	K