

LIME TREE SURGERY PATIENTS GROUP
130th COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY 7th MAY 2009

Present: **Lance Allen** **Chair/Treasurer**
 Margaret Bamford
 Margaret Christmas
 Sybil Evans
 Heidi Jones
 Wendy Pollard
 Charlie Pratt
 Carol Farrow **Secretary**

Also Present: **Dr Mannings**
 Paula Russell

The Chair welcomed Heidi Jones to the Committee.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Gill Cotton, Joyce Hemus and Glynis Thomas.

MINUTES

The minutes of the 9th March 2009 meeting were agreed as being correct.

MATTERS ARISING

The Mental Health talk given by Tony Stubbs in April was very interesting, although sadly lacking in numbers attending. Thanks go Dr Mannings for his participation on the night. Lance Allen thought that we could aim for two talks per year. The subjects will be given some thought.

Sheila Hall from Maytree Avenue has shown an interest in joining the group. Lance will contact her.

Paula Russell stated that she had made enquiries about PPGs section of the surgery website but counting the number of "hits" could not be achieved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

There have been few transactions since the last meeting.

Bookstall	+£116
Donation	+ £60
Hire of Findon Village Hall	- £20
Magnets for Patient Records	- £610
Stickers for Patient Records	- £661
New Information Screen	- £975
Balance	£27,669

The decision regarding the possible VAT refund to HRMC is still awaiting guidance from NAPP, as many PPGs could be affected through the confusing VAT rules.

FUND RAISING

Nothing to report. The next Fayre is pencilled in for November.

PUBLICITY

AGM posters are out and adverts have been put in the Sussex Local. Charlie Pratt will put the remainder out in the local shops next week. Posters have also been displayed in Findon Village.

A suggestion to put a note advertising the Patient Group's fayres, talks etc. in the prescription bags was thought to be a good idea. Charlie Pratt would discuss with Paul Howie from the Pharmacy to ascertain whether he would be willing to carry out this task. If he was amenable, the practicalities would be discussed.

Medical information items to be sent to the Sussex Local from time to time for publication. Dr Oliver Smith has written an article which should be published in the June edition.

EQUIPMENT

Chair had sent a letter to John Wilderspin, Chairman of the PCT on 23 March regarding the Ophthalmology Unit. Chair had spoken to Sue Parton who had originated discussions when she was Practice Manager at Lime Tree who seems to think there may be something in the pipeline.

The new Information Screen has been received favourably by patients. We are grateful to Lyles for installing the screen and its cabling, without a charge for this activity.

No information on whether the sensor for the Dopla machine or the mental health books had been ordered.

The District Nurses have asked if we would agree the cost of a particular type of folder which they require. The cost would be £111 and the expenditure was agreed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was suggested that a talk be given on Skin Cancer, perhaps mid September. Margaret Bamford said she knew of the talk and would find out the name of the Doctor who gave the presentation at Pulborough, which attracted 150 attendees.

The talk at the AGM would be on "Care of the Vulnerable" and would be given by Dr Oliver Smith. St Lawrence Surgery has piloted a scheme called "Unique Care" which targets those of 65 years and over and is similar to that which Dr Smith is involved with.

A Childrens Information Centre is being developed at Vale School, similar to a recent set-up at Durrington 1st School. It is not yet clear what links this will have with the surgery.

The annual renewal of membership to the Worthing Voluntary Services of £15 was approved.

Chair stated that there was a new NHS website called "Your Health" and asked if anyone would volunteer to check it out and report back to the next meeting. Margaret Bamford said she would look at it.

Chair stated that a new Trustee was required now that Geoff Hastings had resigned. The Committee to give it some thought and reply at the next meeting.

Chair and Margaret Bamford attended a County level PCT/NAPP workshop. About 50% of Practices have Patient Groups at the moment. Five sub areas are represented by one Doctor, one Practice Manager and one Patients Group Chair. It will be very useful to get feedback. The new Practice Based Commissioning will be important in the future. An action plan will be developed for discussion.

The minutes of the last Worthing Area Patients Group Forum which was held at St Lawrence Surgery has been circulated to the Committee. Lime Tree will host the next WAPGF on 15th September.

Committee discussed whether to hold a Quiz Night for patients. This has been popular for another local PPG. To be considered further.

Margaret Bamford said Social Services are involved in developing a "Personal Health Budget" which means that a monetary sum will be allocated to each person for the care they need. Patients with long term care needs can have their own care budget to buy the services they require. A conference will be held on 13th May in Crawley. Margaret will ascertain how it may impact on Patients Groups and keep the Committee informed.

Margaret Christmas asked what had happened to the blackboard which was in the Childrens area of the waiting room. It was very popular at the time and she has been asked about its absence Paula Russell was unable to say why the board had been removed but the Committee agreed that it would pay for its reinstatement.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on 20th July 2009 at 7.00 pm. (*Please note change of time*)