

Minutes of Preston Park PPG on 16th April 2019

- 1) The minutes of the meeting on 16th January were approved
- 2) Apologies received from MH, AB & DB. Dr Maria Slattery & Janak Chauhan (Practice Manager) attended from PPS.
- 3) JC updated the group on things happening in and around the Surgery which included some details of the Primary Care networks. Further detailed information would be presented at the next meeting. JC confirmed that the recruitment of additional members of the Nursing Team was now finalised with the addition of a Practice Nurse and Nurse Practitioner. Additional members of the admin were also being recruited. JC also confirmed that the next newsletter was also being collated and would include a section on Self Care.
- 4) PPG members indicated that the PPG noticeboard could not be seen by the patients and should be moved nearer to the reception desk or re-sited completely. The PPG website was fully up and running and everybody noted that there was a lot of detail and was relatively easy to navigate.
- 5) One of the key points raised was the setting up of the VPG which was advertised on the noticeboard and the website. Discussion took place around how we can improve engagement with PPS patients and encourage patients to join the VPG. Ideas which were discussed at previous meetings included:-
 - a) Social gathering – “come and join the PPG for a cup of coffee”

The purpose of this is to encourage patients to sign up to the group, come and discuss ideas of how the PPG could be used to help patients. Organise meetings and arrange an Advanced Nurse Practitioner or a GP to come and provide advice about a medical topic. This could go on to forming a calendar of events which patients could attend and participate in a Q&A with a clinician. These could be called “Health Education Events” which have been well received in other PPG areas.
 - b) PPG should organise social events for the elderly (lunches, trips to the beach, days out etc....)
 - c) Social Isolation was seen as a current area for discussion – how can the lives of PPS patients be improved.
 - d) Preventative Healthcare was seen as another area that the PPG could be involved in and how we can encourage patients to look after themselves better.
- 6) Further discussion took place on what we can and could do to start the process rolling forward and with this in mind it was agreed that a poll on the VPG website where patients can vote on the best suggestion would be very useful. It was agreed that the poll should be kept as simple as possible so patients can vote quickly and not get caught up on thinking about the best way forward. Dr Slattery said she would discuss with the other GPs in the practice and agree what the 3 best questions should be to put on the VPG website for patients to vote on. It was also agreed that any good news stories about the PPG success should be advertised on the VPG website.
- 7) Other issues that the VPG could be involved in include the availability of parking spaces; currently patients struggle and this has meant more DNAs.
- 8) The next 2 meeting dates were agreed:-
Tuesday 16th July & 22nd October starting at 6.30pm.