**Meeting Notes Thursday 11th August 2016**

**AGM**

**Attending**

Jane Howell (JH) Chair Dorothy Mitchell (DAM) Secy. Carole Eastham (CE)

Tom Pound (TP) Barbara Harvey (BH) Matthew Wiseman (MW)

Elaine Bates (EB) Practice Rep Pat Carroll (PC) Ian Turnbull (IT)

**Apologies**

Phil Riding Leanne Gorman

**Annual Report**

The Chairman welcomed all present and presented a review of the year.

She reminded the meeting that she and DAM had been volunteered to step into the breach and were seeking to be replaced. The intention was we would consolidate and grow our PPG and this we have done. The two main priorities outside the practice have been Prioritisation and improving Access to Primary Care. We have made strong representation to both and will continue do so. Dementia Friendly Rossendale is now structured and active with champions in place.

**Patient participation**

In the Practice we have acted outside the bi-monthly meetings in the following ways:

* Increased the membership to 53
* Published three updates relevant to our Practice in the East Lancashire CCG newsletter.
* Members have represented us at all public meetings relevant to PPGs
* Initiated a PPG link in the REAL Directory where all our documents are available in the public domain. Additionally we have been instrumental in the setting up of ‘trusted links’ within the site for PPG members to use when interacting with patients
* Created the policies and procedures necessary for PPG members to operate safely on NHS premises.
* Submitted a bid unsuccessfully to the CCG Social Prescribing Fund for a project to run familiarisation/training sessions for PPG members and two public events to promote social prescribing and the PPG.
* Attended the launch of the REAL Directory – Connecting our Community and receiving and iPad for the use of members in the Practice.
* Represented the PPG at the CQC inspection
* Printed 2 sets of information leaflets
* Held a Mingle and Munch – a familiarisation/social interaction event to encourage new members and provide further information about PPGs and meet with the local and east Lancashire CCG staff.
* Become founder members of the Rossendale PPG.

**Election of Officers**

Despite an impassioned plea from DAM that we address the need for young and enthusiastic officers, we retain the status quo. All present will seek to identify people of all ages to ensure we get the views of young people and families. Offers of practical support from all present were gratefully received.

**The Meeting**

**Chairman’s Report**

**Pennine Lancashire Transformation Plan**

The bringing together of health and social care - Pennine Lancashire Transformation Plan. The overall aspiration is clear – A health and care system across Pennine Lancashire that is better, quicker, closer and safer. Running late the programme is already on catch up – please read all about it on our pages on the Directory. We have the opportunity to have our say on this new journey by logging on to [www.togetherahealthierfuture.org.uk](http://www.togetherahealthierfuture.org.uk)

**Proposal to improve access to GP services**

We have continued to make our views known by individual and formal response. We were heartened by the following message from David Rogers ‘ This is one consultation I believe that we will listen to the views we receive and hopefully everyone working together in Rossendale will come up with a “fit” that works for the people of Rossendale’. However cast down again when the initial headline results proclaim it as a ‘victory’. We are however invited to a front seat at the launch of the outcome and be assured we will stand by our combined view.

**What next for Dementia Services**

We need to put down some dates for holding some listening events to achieve our aim of making local concerns known.

**Lancashire Wellbeing Services**

With the secretary and EB we met a representative from Lancashire Wellbeing Service. The service was introduced as replacing Green Dreams and Help Direct. A partnership between – Age Concern central Lancashire (not to be confused with Age UK), N Compass and Richmond Fellowship. What these bodies do was unclear. The leaflet says they provide free short term practical support for people in Lancs who may be struggling with issues affecting their happiness and health. Operational in Rossendale since September 2015 it is a 2 year pilot. So far they have only managed to make contact with Bacup & Whitworth. We were unimpressed. To promote this we would need a lot more information. What is being promoted is not what was marketed in the paperwork we shared with our members. Seemed very watered down. They do however find the REAL website extremely useful and she would recommend it to anyone seeking information and they use it to train volunteers. Further it seems as though there is an overlap with The Community Care Navigators Project is funded by ELCCG. Councillor Barbara Ashworth had arranged for Stephanie Thornton to prepare a report to clarify this and all other conflicting, overlapping and uncertain projects.

**Rossendale PPG Network**

The first meeting was held last week and we have duly signed up as members and allocated two places. Terms of reference are set and quarterly meetings planned. It is designed as a safety net so all matters pertaining to PPGs are brought into a central information base which will of course be situate in the Directory. Not all Practices have a PPG and others are not well advanced and part of the role of the Network is to encourage those who do not, to set up as they are required to do by mandate. The gap is Rawtenstall.

**Pharmacy First**

This frontline service is available across Rossendale and we should spread the word so people can choose to call at a pharmacy before making a GP appointment for simple ailments.

**Practice Update**

We still struggle to attract the GPs we need to be permanently fully staffed. Claire Downes has joined the practice as Advanced Nurse Practitioner. Flu vaccinations are due mid-September and EB will let us know as soon as she knows the dates. Once we have the dates we can plan a rota to support the clinics and market the PPG. Members were disappointed that there are no Saturday slots planned. Elaine will take this back and see if perhaps they may waver. The practice too is experiencing the weight of the number of Navigators descending who all seem to be doing much the same thing. The view is they cause more work than they alleviate.

**AOB**

The relationship between Practice and Pharmacy was raised and EB explained there was no relationship. The Pharmacy is a franchise. She undertook however to look into the matter raised which was in regard to customer service.

There was discussion on PPG progress in supporting the practice without making demands and DAM outlined a series of forthcoming events at Community Link where there would be an opportunity to have lunch and identify ways and means of brining the community closer together to address this and other issues arising from the many changes taking place in all areas of health and wellbeing. Invitations will go round to members. Lunch is free but they do need to know if you intend to attend.

JH thanked all for attending and there being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.30 p.m.

Date of next meeting - Thursday October 13thth 2016 at 6.30 – Community Room