**PATIENTS PARTICIPATION REFERENCE GROUP**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MAY 7th 2015**

**MINUTES**

1. Apologies: Judith and Brian Durrant, Margaret Rogers, Jean Featherstone.

**2. Chairman’s opening address**

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming those present on what he thought was the 22nd (or more) Annual General Meeting and commented how many more there were present than in those very early days. He thanked the Secretary for all the work she had done and thanked the Committee, Pat, Anne, Alf, George and John for their valuable support, advice and assistance through the year. Thanks were due to the Practice Manager, Rita, and her staff for the support and help they have given in preparing the room for meetings, making the upstairs room available for committee meetings and for certain speakers, and for generally keeping in touch. Grateful thanks were extended to the doctors of both practices for bearing the cost of the security guard for our meetings and providing financial help towards the December Cheese and Wine Social Evening. Many thanks, also, for giving very interesting talks on two occasions during the year. Finally he said thanks were due to Becky, the Practice Receptionists Co-ordinator and Nicole Alkemade, from the CCG for their interesting and informative talks.

The Chairman informed the meeting that speakers were in place until the end of the year, mentioning especially the September meeting when Heald Green, as an active Patients Group, has been asked to meet with a team from **Stockport Together** who wish to discuss their plans and seek our ideas and opinions. **Stockport Together** will be in a partnership

with the four major health and social organisations in Stockport, namely, Stockport NHS Foundation Trust, NHS Stockport CCG, Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust and Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council. Stockport is an NHS England Vanguard choice to develop a single strategic plan to improve health and social care services across the borough by an integrated way of working, centred on the individual. Clearly it will be hoped to improve care and reduce the number of admissions to hospital. It was felt to be important to respond to this invitation and the team will visit the Group on September 3rd.

The meeting was reminded of our letter to the MP, Mark Hunter concerning the disparity between Stockport and certain other CCG’s in the allocation of the budget. The MP contacted the Minister for NHS England who responded typically but he did say that the matter was being revised. However, this has now been overtaken by the allocation of the entire budget for NHS and Social Care to Greater Manchester. Final allocation is not yet known but we wait with baited breath!

In conclusion, the Chairman announced that he and the Secretary were retiring but added that they would be available, if required, to assist the new Chairman and Secretary as they take up the reins. Anne, Alf, George and John were willing to remain on the committee, if elected. Pat, who has given us great support for two years longer than she had originally intended, wishes to retire and this has been accepted. The Chairman added that he and the Secretary retired with regret but had served longer than originally intended. He said that while it had been hard work at times, they had very much enjoyed their time in office and had been fortunate in the support and friendship of all the committee members.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

Copies of the minutes of the last AGM were circulated to all those present. There proved to be no matters arising and the minutes were accepted as a true record.

**4 Secretary’s Report**.

The secretary gave a brief outline of the speakers, their subjects and the number of members in attendance. Grateful thanks were expressed to all the speakers for giving their time to us, especially the doctors and Health Centre staff who all came to us after a full day’s work.

The group was informed of the increase in members’ attendance during this year and the great pleasure we have had in welcoming several new members. As always, meetings have been advertised as widely as possible, by posters (with thanks to Alf), by email and phone and (thanks to Graham) hand delivery where necessary.

A big thank you was said to all the members who have continued steadfastly to support the Group over the past year.

**5. Election of Officers**.

a) Christine Morgan was elected as the new Chairman, proposed by Pat Bruce and seconded by George Rogers

b) Linda Griffiths was elected as the new Secretary, proposes by Graham Bruce and seconded by John Featherstone.

c) Committee – Anne Mitchelson, George Rogers and John Featherstone were prepared to serve again on the committee and, there being no other nominations, were elected en bloc, proposed by Peter Jennings and seconded by Jean Jennings.

d) Having previously been a co-opted member it was proposed by Linda Griffiths, seconded by George Rogers, that Alf Churchhouse should be elected as the fourth committee member.

**6 Any Other Business**

The Chair was formally handed over to Christine Morgan who then spoke to the group about herself and her background and this was similarly followed by Linda Griffiths, the new Secretary. Good wishes for the future were expressed to them both. Finally, gifts of flowers and wine were, very kindly, presented to the outgoing Chairman and Secretary.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

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