**PATIENTS PARTICIPATION GROUP**

 **COMMITTEE MEETING**

 **OCTOBER 28th 2014**

**Present**: Peter Jennings (Chair), Jean Jennings (Secretary), Patricia Bruce, Alf Churchhouse, John Featherstone, Anne Mitchelson, George Rogers.

 1 The Chairman welcomed the full committee and thanked them for attending.

 2 Minutes of the last meeting on June 17th 2014 were approved.

 **3 Matters Arising**

1. It had been suggested that copies of the letters from Mark Hunter MP and Andrew Gwynne MP,

in response to our comments on the apparent inequality of NHS funding to CCG’s, should be sent to Dr Ranjit Gill and it was confirmed that this had been done.

1. Having arranged the programme until December 2015, it was suggested that an A3 size poster should be put on the notice board and this was done.
2. The request for committee members’ email addresses to be added to the Virtual list was relayed

to the Practice Manager.

1. In view of the interest in Wendy Hardie’s talk on Obesity, it was suggested that she might run a group at the Health Centre. The Practice Manager agreed that it could be kept in mind but as any group would have to be held in the evening, (Wendy works full time), the question of a security guard and the cost precludes it at the moment.

1. As requested, an approach was made to the CCG for information as to how the budgets of each Health Centre compared. It became clear, however, that in view of the wide variation in the Practices, such comparison would not be useful.

 **4 Cheese and Wine Social Evening.**

This was discussed and responsibility for the various food and other items required were

apportioned. An email had been sent to the Practice Manager to advise her of the meeting and asking if we could be informed whether the Practices would be willing to make a financial contribution, as in previous years. We were disappointed not to receive this assurance before the meeting, so the plans were unable to be finalised. It was suggested that invitations should be sent to the MP, Dr Gill and other CCG personnel, the local Councillors and Pharmacists etc, but this has had to be held in abeyance.

 **5 Dr Dean’s Retirement.**

 A collection was held among PPG members at two meetings which raised a total of £80. It

 was agreed that we should buy John Lewis gift tokens and that Alf Churchhouse, as a founder member of the Patients Group, should present it at Dr Dean’s retirement gathering on Saturday, November 1st.

**6. Any Other Business**

 a) The plastic wallet on the notice board with the ‘Are You Aware’ leaflets does not appear to be

attracting much attention. It was suggested that it should be placed higher up on the board and, if possible, made more noticeable.

b) The question of a queuing system on the telephone was raised again and the Chairman said that he believed the matter was still in hand.

c) Comment was made that the number, per month, of failed appointments on the main notice board does not appear to be changed.

d) It was recalled that, at the old Health Centre, there was a television set in the patients’ waiting room. This is also the practice in many other waiting rooms, especially hospitals. We believe that this could be a useful way of attracting patients’ attention to information, health matters and advice and possibly, short, relevant, documentaries. The Chairman said he would enquire whether other Health Centres have this facility.

1. The Healthier Together questionnaire was discussed with several comments on the difficulty in answering some of the questions. Not surprisingly, we were all, personally, in favour of Wythenshawe as a one of the specialist hospitals. However, we await the result.

**Action Plan**

1. Are You Aware leaflets to be placed more prominently.
2. Enquiry as to whether other Health centre waiting rooms have TV.
3. Contact Practice Manager again regarding financial contribution for the Cheese and Wine Evening.

 **There being no further business, the meeting close at 11.30 am**.

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