

### PPG Meeting, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019

1. Present – Jan Lloyd, John West, Dallas Sherwood, Bruce Battens, Gordon Lovell, Angela Lovell, Christine Cartwright, Nigel Vaughan, Jill Hussein, John Neale, Judith Westall, Vanda Gould, Robert Gould, Jane Hanlon, Steve Bates, Mark Pitman, Clive Robinson, Olivia Hanlon, Elspeth Woods, Dr Fagan, Dr Bunting, Dr Huda Muhsin
2. Apologies – Fay Read, Sheila Dale, Denise Ingall, Ian Graham, Penny Liddiard

### 3. In Memory of Toni Rampello

*I'm sorry to start today's meeting on an extremely sad note.*

*It is with great sadness that I report the passing last week of our member and friend, Toni Rampello. The death of Toni is a tragic event for the family and a very sad loss for this PPG. Toni was one of the first members of this PPG. The PPG exists to help other people when they are ill or in poor health. It depends of people volunteering and Toni was an excellent example to us as a volunteer. If she saw something which needed doing, she would sort it. If volunteers were called for, she would be among the first to step forward, finding excuses to help rather an excuse not to. She was generous with her time and often supported by her husband with her in PPG activities for which we are grateful. If she said she would do something you could depend on her to do it. She was organised and very capable with a variety of skills. From organising the raffles for the Flu Clinic days to editing our Newsletter, she relished the challenge and produced excellent results.*

*In recent times her health has presented ever-increasing challenges for her yet she has been a very regular PPG attender, lighting up the room with her brilliant smile and cheerful disposition.*

*The funeral is planned for Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> of December @ 11.30am at St Thomas Aquinas Church in Fenny Stratford – all are invited. There will be a burial at 1.45pm at Selbourne Avenue - again anyone who wishes to go along are welcome.*

*It is to be family flowers only and the family are asking for all donations to be made to Red House Surgery so that they can use it to carry on the legacy and remember Toni at the practice which is an extremely kind gesture and I am sure the practice will be able to find a way to do this.*

*We will all miss Toni and I ask that we spend a few moments in silent contemplation, but before that I invite if there is anyone else who would like to say something to please do so now.*

4. Draft minutes. Approved (with addition of Steve at Remembrance Parade).
5. The role of secretary was discussed, Elspeth has been acting secretary since the AGM, Steve invited nominations – Jan proposed Elspeth as Secretary and Christine and others seconded. Elspeth accepted with pleasure.
6. No speaker for this meeting.

7. Matters Arising

- a. Borders continue to be well maintained
- b. Jan thanked Jane for passing on details of a speaker from MK Soroptimists for future meeting and Niv Dubey who spoke at the last C&B meeting with regard to oral hygiene. As always, suggestions for future speakers to Jan please
- c. There was some discussion over the ongoing situation with Whaddon and Cobbs Garden PPGs with regard to meeting with Red House PPG. Steve, Gordon and Bob have each had contact with people informally about the respective PPGs and there would seem to be some benefit to meeting with the other PPGs to help with recruitment, ideas and suggestions for all 3 groups. Steve will keep in contact
- d. Fundraising – Steve recapped the discussions from last month over using funds raised from various PPG activities. Bruce had been invited to speak with Wendy re possibilities for supporting some social prescribing activities. During that discussion the possibility of choir leaders from a couple of local groups had come up – this was put to the side for this meeting due to other priorities and Jane reminded us that Wendy supported three practices and was extremely busy at this particular time of the year and so perhaps Singing group best left to a later date to take forward. Jan mentioned that there is a singing group at the local Methodist Church which is always welcoming to new members.

Jane was invited to explain the position around the blood pressure monitoring equipment that had been discussed last month. She clarified that this is not equipment that is routinely available in practices. It is specialist equipment to monitor a patient's blood pressure over a 24 hour period and to access this normally would mean a formal referral to the cardiac unit at Whaddon. In order to reduce waiting times for Red House patients, the practice had decided to invest in their own machine for the benefit of our patients. It is a big commitment as there are regular servicing and maintenance costs also. There is no NHS funding or contribution for either the equipment itself or the ongoing charges.

Mark made the point that we need to ask ourselves whether we support in principle reimbursing the surgery for the equipment already purchased (£1134) which Christine confirmed would leave a balance of £1100 and that it is something we should revisit in general terms when we are looking longer term when we have new premises. Steve invited the group to vote on the basis of clarification provided by Jane.

All but one member who voted, were in favour of supporting the surgery in the purchase of the blood pressure monitoring equipment (Already purchased)

- e. The matter of dating future newsletters was deferred.
- f. Programme of 2020 visits also deferred

8. Steve is intending to go along to the PP Networking event on Wednesday evening – he expressed a particular interest in the recently published list of procedures that will no longer be funded by NHS. He will report back to the next meeting
9. Surgery update – The outline business case has been approved for new surgery premises. It is the first hurdle overcome and discussions are ongoing with developers.

Going forward strong participation by the PPG in relation to public engagement in the project will be crucial – there is likely to be at least two years of disruption while the surgery is built. The PPG confirmed their willingness to get actively involved

Jane confirmed that the CQC has conducted a telephone review of the surgery which had gone well. Steve asked if it would be possible to see the questions that were asked, Doctors couldn't see any reason why not and Jane will confirm.

New staff, our shared pharmacist Brenny has now started. Funded by CROWN for 4.5 days per week, we share her with the other two surgeries and at the moment it is still being worked out how best to use her skills. Brenny will work at Red House 2 days per week. Also being recruited is a first contact physiotherapist.

Jane reminded us that the PPG book stalls were a little depleted and contributions greatly received. Elspeth has plenty of books that she will drop off to help fill the shelves. John N asked how much the sale of books had raised this last year, £450 (approx.). A suggestion was made that perhaps a poster for the surgery requesting books be donated might be helpful

Jane mentioned that she has in the past had very kind donations to the surgery from a patient for surgery use and she had agreed with Christine to record and bank these funds with the PPG so that there is an audit trail of this funding. She suggested that this may go towards the 24hr BP machine.

Jane confirmed early closing over the festive period on Christmas Eve and Hogmanay when the surgery would close at 1.30pm

#### 10. Any Other Business.

- The newsletter and other fundraising activities undertaken by Toni will have to be looked at – this was deferred till the New Year. There has been an offer of ongoing help for the newsletter.
- Nigel V raised two medical queries over recent research into stents and also Triple A screening. Dr Fagan dealt with this.

11. Dates of next meeting. Core Group 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020. PPG meeting Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 6.15pm.

The surgery kindly provided festive refreshments after the meeting which was much appreciated.

Prepared by Elspeth Woods  
Secretary to PPG

