



**Patient Participant Group Meeting
Monday, 16th January, 2017**

Agenda Item 1: Registration

Present: Steve Bates (Chair), Bob Gould, Vanda Gould, Toni Rampello, Michael Whitehand, Christine Cartwright, Jane Hanlon (Practice Manager), John Neale, Jill Hussein, Jan Lloyd, Hilary Godsman, Nigel Vaughan, Mark Wilson, Judith Westell, Gordon Lovell, Maureen Gladwin, Clive Robinson, Dr Nigel Fagan (GP), Dr Lucy Marchand (GP), Fay Read, Gillian Holloway and Angela Lovell (PPG Secretary).

Apologies: David Lloyd, Sheila Dale, Penny Liddiard and Mark Pitman.

Agenda Item 2: Speaker for this meeting. Fay Grech-Margueret from MK University Hospital Cancer Department.

Steve welcomed Fay and thanked her for coming to speak to us. Her son Edward ably accompanied her.

First Fay informed us about her background. She qualified as a nurse in 1997 and has always worked in cancer care. She is a qualified chemotherapy nurse and runs the Macmillan Information and Support Service together with Samantha Timmins. She continued with much information about this service.

- ❖ The Information and Support Service offers one to one support/nurse counselling and information to patients, their families and friends. Appointments are necessary. There is also a selection of booklets ranging from before diagnosis right through to diseases, treatments, life after cancer and booklets for carers.
- ❖ There are monthly “Look Good, Feel Better” workshops run by a national charity. Those attending are given a £200 pack of facial treatment products connected with looking after one’s skin and applying makeup. Those present are shown the correct way to apply the products by a makeup artist, for example if a patient has lost their eyebrows they are shown the correct way to draw them in. It is a very nice pampering session to raise patients’ moral and is held at the Peartree Centre.
- ❖ Six months ago Fay started a choir for cancer patients which is proving most enjoyable and successful and is very uplifting for those taking part. Fay has a friend who plays the piano.
- ❖ There is health and well-being support group.
- ❖ The ‘Hope’ course run by Macmillan is a 6-week course for patients who have had treatment and enables them to come out feeling more supported.

- ❖ The Milton Keynes Cancer Patient Partnership (MKCPP) is a local partnership led by cancer patients and carers in association with cancer nurses and doctors, cancer support groups, patient participation groups, cancer charities and more. It is working together, as volunteers sharing the caring for cancer in Milton Keynes. www.mkcpp.org
- ❖ Fay also mentioned the Patient Journal which the patient keeps and is a record of things that go well and improvements that can be made.
- ❖ Macmillan is in partnership with Christos Hair Salon, wig, hair and scalp specialists in Newport Pagnell. It is possible to have a prescription for a wig to the value of £68 (approximately) and pay the difference if one chooses a more expensive wig. This applies only to Christos Hair Salon.
- ❖ Macmillan grants of up to £500 are available for travel to the hospital.
- ❖ All patients have chemotherapy at Milton Keynes Hospital. Also radiotherapy is also done in Milton Keynes now. Some patients do have to go to Oxford.
- ❖ A new stand-alone 3-storey building is planned for 2018. Radiotherapy will be in the basement with well-being, chemotherapy and outpatient suites above. The ward will be on the first floor.
- ❖ There is free parking and prescriptions for Macmillan cancer patients.
- ❖ There are 10 volunteers who cover Monday to Friday welcoming patients, serving refreshments and talking to patients, doing clerical work and distributing information around the hospital.
- ❖ The Macmillan Unit has its own charity which is separate from the Bucks Macmillan charity.

Steve asked what the survival rate for cancer is. Fay mentioned that with early detection it can be treated successfully. It can return but there is really good treatment for secondary cancer.

Steve thanked Fay very much for coming to talk to us and presented her with a small token of our appreciation.

Agenda Item 3: Minutes of December 2016 PPG meeting

These were circulated to members prior to the meeting and it was agreed that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting. They will now be included on the surgery's web page.

Agenda Item 4: Matters Arising

- a) Patient Congress. Steve missed the meeting but his notes were included on the Agenda
- b) Horticulture. Nothing to report.
- c) Feedback from David regarding suggestions for his proposed survey. David was unable to attend the meeting so this will be carried forward.
- d) Red House Rovers – any update? Ian thought he would be able to come to the meeting but was unable to. There will be an update at our next PPG meeting.
- e) With Gillian moving out of the surgery's catchment area we have a new set of communication issues to discuss and resolve. An update from Mark and Gillian. It was agreed that Gillian, Mark, Angela, Steve and some other members of our PPG will meet to discuss this. Gillian was thanked for her input to the PPG.

f) Cycle Racks suggestion This will be discussed at the next Core Group meeting.

Agenda Item 5: Update from the Surgery

Steve thanked the surgery for the refreshments after our December PPG meeting which were most appreciated.

Dr Fagan and Jane updated us with surgery information.

- ❖ We were all very disappointed to learn that Frida will be leaving.
- ❖ Jane mentioned that the surgery is looking to recruit a practice nurse and receptionist.
- ❖ There are a number of raffle prizes left following the flu days. It was agreed that the perishable items (biscuits and sweets) would be bought to future PPG meetings for the members to consume. Any gifts will be stored and put in the next raffle.
- ❖ On Wednesday, 25th January a number of doctors and practice staff are visiting a flagship GP practice in Ipswich to observe the building structure and their operation. The Ipswich practice have said we would be welcome again if the surgery would like a follow-up visit.
- ❖ A meeting is planned for 17th January with the architect. The surgery have an idea of what they want and it will require a lot of input from the PPG, eg` possibly a group from the PPG. Once the proposed site is agreed, the surgery will get down to the nitty-gritty regarding social interaction for staff and patients, examination rooms, meeting room/s, the desire to have a paramedic on site and minor operation rooms.
- ❖ Once all is agreed and there is an agreed change of location for the surgery, Dr Fagan said there would be a consultation exercise with patients from Red House and any new areas that the surgery may cover.
- ❖ Concern was expressed regarding the STP pre-engagement meeting on 9th January which was postponed due to short notice of the meeting. Steve wrote expressing his concern over the short notice. There are now two meetings planned, one on the 20th January, the other on 23rd January.
- ❖ The CCG have identified a number of procedures which require further consideration prior to referral. These include tonsillectomy, hip and knee replacements and cataract surgery. Dr Fagan explained the reasoning behind this from a clinical point of view and that the CCG are required to make considerable savings this year. It was outlined this did not mean that the procedures would not take place but that further clinical detail and testing may be required prior to referral.
- ❖ Maureen was concerned as she had read that referrals had to go through a referral management system and it was they who decide which referrals to put forward for treatment. Dr Fagan mentioned that this system has been in operation here for a while and some revisions would be OK. It works well at present. He also said that age on its own is not a reasonable reason for not carrying out an operation.
- ❖ Jane mentioned that following Christmas and the New Year, there are many stamps that need to be trimmed. Jane asked for volunteers to help Toni out with this task. As we left the meeting, many of us picked up a small bag of stamps to deal with. UK and foreign stamps need to be separated.

- ❖ Jane informed us that a stamp collection valued at approximately £100 has been donated to the surgery. The donator has been thanked by the surgery and will also be thanked by the PPG. A couple of jewellery items have also been donated and will be taken to auction. PPG to decide on what to do with proceeds.
- ❖ Jane thanked Vanda for knitting another 15 beautiful twiddlemuffs. We were shown them and were all so impressed by her knitting expertise. More wool is available from Jane and Marianne has also taken some to pass on to other group who are short of stock.

Agenda Item 6: Any Other Business – Any suggestions for health-related projects we can consider in the next year?

- a) Older Patients Forum. Jan informed us that the next meeting is scheduled for 25th January from 2-4 pm and will be questions and answers meeting which will be chaired by Paul Griffiths. Nigel Long, Cabinet Minister will attend together with Edith Ball Conservative and a Lib Dem representative.
- b) We were informed that there is a proposal to stop funding for acupuncture for people with back problems, gluten free products and chemists pre-orders for gluten free products.
- c) Gillian informed us of a Valentine themed quiz night at Age UK scheduled for 8th February at 7 pm. Hot food will be provided and the cost is £10 per person. Gordon, Maureen, Gillian, Toni, Mark and Craig expressed an interest in attending.
- d) Steve asked if we want to participate in the 2017 PPG Awareness Week, which Clive said had been mentioned in the NAPP bulletin for the 19-23rd of June.

Agenda Item 7: Dates of next meetings

- (a) Core Group meeting - Wednesday, 8th February, 2017 at 12.30 pm
- (b) PPG meeting - Wednesday, 15th February, 2017 at 6.15 pm