

KINGS CORNER SURGERY Patients' Participation Group

Minutes of the meeting Wednesday 12th September 2012

Present: Sally Hanson (Chair), Christine Weightman (Secretary), Pat Morris (Minutes), Peter Bateson, Russ Howell & Daphne Luff. Dr Hamid represented the surgery.

The meeting welcomed Spike Humphrey (Spike.Humphrey@lineone.net) and Harry Ruprah (Harry.Ruprah@hotmail.com) who had responded to calls for volunteers to become members of the group.

1. The meeting also welcomed Michaela Helman, Support & Development Officer for Windsor & Maidenhead Healthwatch/Links. She explained that Healthwatch was being established in order to provide a vehicle for the needs and views of patients to become part of the decision-making process in local and regional Commissioning Groups. It would focus on involving patients and the public in deciding how and where health provision would be made. The system is intended to be operational by April 2013. It is 'early days yet' and unclear at present exactly how PPGs will fit in. However, patient's views surveyed by our PPG annually will become an important component of the information gathered. It was agreed that the input of patient's ideas and views was welcome and to wait and see what specifically Healthwatch would ask us to do.

2. Arising from the previous meeting

Our draft Terms of Reference, modified by Sally as agreed, were adopted and would be put on our website. **Action Sally**

Christine had sought advice from the Fuel Allotment Trust regarding possible financial support for the PPG Newsletter. She had submitted a bid based on suggestions made at the last meeting. A decision was likely by the end of September. Meanwhile, the 'Community Chest' (accessible via 'Healthwatch') offered another potential source of funds in future.

EMIS: the computerised patients' record system is working and now accessible to patients. Clare had offered to assist if asked and PPG members were encouraged to try to access their records. Peter B. confirmed that he had been successful in doing so.

Dr Whitfield had been asked to write a letter regarding notification of automatic changes to prescriptions, but there was nothing to report. The outcome could be reported to the next meeting. **Action Clare**

3. Newsletter

Peter B. offered to collate the next edition and it was agreed to aim for an issue in November. Peter would gather information from the Surgery, including a profile (and photo!) of Dr Hamid, and add a short paragraph about 'Healthwatch' based on the presentation we had received. **Action: Peter B.**

Christine would trawl for additional suggested material and also send copies of the current Newsletter to Spike and Harry. **Action: Christine**

4. AoB

Dr Hamid reported that Dr Norminton would be acting as a locum locally. Discussions were still in progress regarding establishment of CCGs. This was difficult given the large number of local groups involved.

The PPG was now a fully-paid up member of the National Association of PPGs, the fee being covered by the Surgery.

Heatherwood would not be closed after all and there were signs that day surgery might be retained there. This would not provide services for rehabilitation (from strokes and injuries) or for the elderly or mentally ill. These were all highly appropriate to the local area and not available except in more remote locations.

5. Next Meeting.

October 15th at 6.30pm. (Pat may be in Lancashire that day, so another Minute-taker might be needed)

November 12th

Christine kindly offered to host the December meeting at her home.