

## **Milton Surgery Patient Participation Group**

**Date:** Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**Time:** 7 pm

**Venue:** Milton Surgery

**a. Apologies:**

Hazel Smith

Norma Kay

Eileen Henderson

**b. Present:**

Barry Line (BL) committee member

Sue Nunn (SN) committee member

Sally Bradley (SB) committee member

John Uttin (JU) committee member

Bryan Betson (BB) chairperson

Bob Pain (BP) committee member

Pam Vincett (PV) practice manager

Angie Carpenter (AC) secretary

Jane Coston (JC) committee member Parish councillor

Jane Thomas (JT) committee member

Chris Thomas (CT) committee member

**c. Acceptance of last minutes.**

**d. Further developments on funding for Community Café (CC).**

BB has obtained funding from Milton Charities and Andy Gray, to cover the rent for the CC for the next year. Any monies left over from this pot will be put back into the group. CT asked the group if they had any ideas about new activities that may be offered in the café. Computer information classes were suggested.

**e. Further discussions and planning of the Health Fair 2017.**

CT asked if there is to be a Milton Summer Fair this year and if there is none suggested we piggy back a PPG event onto one of the Milton Primary School events. Popular opinion was that the school barbecue in early July would be the most appropriate venue. BP advised the PPG that the school is tentatively okay with this arrangement. SN reminded us of how popular this event is, and how many people attend it most years. There tend to be lots of stalls at the event, and there are normally things for both adults and children to take part in. She has volunteered to talk to the organisers of this event (Simon and Michelle) and find out what is likely to be going on this year, and ask them (if they are happy) what they might like the PPG to contribute to the BBQ event. The popular feeling within the PPG group is that we offer activity or activities for the children that are fun, based around a healthy living theme, and are interactive. BP suggested 'make your own cocktails' with fruit that we maybe can source from Tesco. SB reminded us that they already hand out free fruit for kids in-store. JC advised us that she has a meeting planned with Tesco and BP asked if she might be able to

discuss our requirements (fruit for kids' cocktails) with them at this meeting? CT will email JC with a list of requirements. JC also told us about Tesco, and how they have staff volunteers working in the community. They are currently helping plant daffodils for the Parish Council. The group was very impressed. JC also suggested the idea of getting the children used to fitness watches and such like as an exercise incentive. It was discussed and the main barrier to this it was felt would be the expense to the parents, and the PPG might be put in a difficult position. JT suggested asking the Health Promotion Resources centre if they have any equipment/interactive games that may fit the bill. She reminded us about the success of the Food Game at last year's event. AC will investigate. BP was asking who is behind the placing of defibrillators in the community and was advised by LC that the St. John's Ambulance were. Would this be a useful display at the BBQ? SN wondered if a first-aid element might be a good idea, and BP volunteered to call Amelia and find out if she is currently involved with the school, and if so could it be tied in with the PPG input?

JC advised the group of the **North Lodge Pavilion** opening event on April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017. She advised us that the Colts will be attending and that cricket is on the agenda! JT asked if they could provide free fruit for the children on the day, maybe asking Tesco if they would be able to contribute to both events? See above.

**f. Any further developments on Federating after the 8/12/16 meeting?**

The meetings continue, but the main aim is to concentrate on being part of a large federation that can carry significant weight and be recognized as such by the DOH. It is the best way forward for Milton surgery and others like us. The Federation has now appointed a full-time manager who is looking at large project funding. The possibility of funding a project that involved work around nursing homes was discussed although this would not affect Milton Surgery directly as there are no nursing homes in their catchment area. PV will keep us posted.

**g. Way Forward:**

Health Fair – continue discussions/arrangements at next PPG meeting. SN to report back on her meeting with Simon and Michelle re the Health Fair/BBQ. Update on the Federating process. Feedback from GP's on current recommendations for GP service provision.

**h. AOB:**

PV has advised us that sadly, **Dr Steward is planning her retirement** for probably August this year. JC suggested that it would be lovely if the patients could have a way of saying thank you, and that rather than just a card, they could have the opportunity to add their own comments to this. These could then be gathered together, and presented to Dr Steward at her retirement, and would be a reminder of just how valued she has been by the patients in the practice over her many years of service. The group asked about a replacement GP and PV advised us of the protocol they have in place for such an event, and how the

position is being advertised locally and then nationally in the BMJ with hopefully interviews taking place in March.

Concern was raised within the group of the many issues being reported in the press over the past few weeks that are clearly targeting **general practice service provision**. The group had many questions about this and how it may affect the patients at Milton Surgery. The seven day working week and 12 hour day are of concern. PV informed us of the already existing enhanced (and funded) service which operates in some general practices. Milton surgery hours are from 0800 to 2000. However this has had some impact on the out of hours service (OOH), and can result in fewer GP's being available for the OOH, as they are running the enhanced service at their own practices.

JC asked the group if we as a **PPG** should be doing something about this and perhaps making a **statement to the government**? She also asked PV if it would be possible to know what the GP's in our own practice thought about these latest suggested 'initiatives' with some feedback from them.

PV also advised us how the government is looking into **surgery opening hours in general**, and at daytime closures. Milton Surgery is of course one of these as they currently close from 1200 to 1400 in order to carry out home visits, administrative duties and generally catch up with day-to-day matters. She did say that it is possible that there might be a financial implication to this in the future and staffing implications, should the surgery maintain these closing hours. PV looked at the part federating could play in these issues, and how it might be possible to share resources when required. The Federation is keen to continue to promote quality of service.

Further discussion continued on the **pressures placed on hospitals** during these difficult times and the way people use A&E departments. BL asked if federating might have any effect on these pressures and bring about change?

PV talked about the current **patient referral system** to Addenbrooke's by GP's and advised the group that currently at Milton Surgery all potential referrals to hospital are assessed by Addenbrooke's before the GP can make the referral. She also advised us that with our experienced GP's most of the referrals they make are entirely appropriate.

CT asked about the care of **elderly patients going back into the community** from hospital, and PV advised that this is organised by the discharge team in Hospitals. They co-ordinate with Social Services and Community teams.

**i. Date of next meeting: WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> March**

**j. Close of meeting.**

