

**MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
PATIENTS' REFERENCE GROUP  
HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2019 AT THE VESTRY HALL**

**Present:** 27 members and 4 medical staff.

Sian, the Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

Sian introduced Hannah from Involve Kent who spoke about social prescribing at the Medical Centre. This is a 3 year pilot scheme to encourage people to cope with their own anxieties and depression and has been in existence for a number of years.

Dr Potter said the Practice is now involved with social prescribing with Integrated Care Pathway. (ICP).

Sian introduced Rachel who works with dementia sufferers and the hope is to make Marden a dementia friendly village. Tonbridge is already a dementia friendly town.

On 21st May there will be a birthday party for the Living Memories Group.

**Minutes of last meeting:** These were approved.

**Matters Arising:** None.

**Election of Officers:** Sian agreed to continue for a further year as no-one had volunteered to take her place. She would remain as Chairman, Peter as Vice-Chairman and Mo as secretary. This was agreed.

**Chairman's Report**

Welcome to all and Thank you for coming.

First I would like to thank Hannah for their explanation of the support that Involve is giving to Patients in Marden and I am sure their work will expand and be appreciated by all. Thank you also to Rachel for her work at the Living Memory Café and her enthusiasm and foresight to make Marden a Dementia Friendly Village.

As a group our membership is growing. Currently we have 182 members registered

What have we been involved with this year? We have attended the WKCCG Chairs meetings, and reported back on the main points to the committee. Summaries of these can be found in the minutes of our committee meetings. These minutes are sent by email to all our members. we have Some of the meetings of PPG chairs are aimed at promoting health projects. If we attend these meeting and promote the message, the group is rewarded by a financial contribution from the CCG.

To summarise the meetings over the last year, many have focused on how medical care will be organised and delivered in West Kent in the future, as more changes are required by NHS England. More Public consultations have been held on future proposals. The decision for the locations of the hyper acute stroke units have now been decided and I am pleased to report that one will be located in Maidstone.

In other meetings self-help strategies have promoted, both for physical and mental wellbeing and the "One You" project was explained and launched. We also had a presentation on Social Prescribing and the setting up of the Pilot studies in five practices in Kent. I am pleased to report that we are part of the study about the Involve project, which we have just heard about.

The "Come and Sing Group" has gone from strength to strength, the Walking group continues to meet regularly and has published six new walks and the "Living Memory Café" has been a great success. These activities all adds to the initiative of Social Prescribing which we have been encouraged to organise by the powers that be.

The flu Clinics were somewhat more complicated this year but we still had volunteers turning up to help. Again the Patient Survey was conducted and the results were satisfying. The Centre had another visit from the CQC and I am pleased to report that I was able once again to reassure the commission that the support the patient group received from the practice was excellent.

Sadly we lost Jenny Mallion this year who was our excellent editor for the Newsletter. Jenny was a committed member of the PRG and a caring lady full of life. So we were determined to continue publishing. We managed to publish an Autumn newsletter with the help of Ian. We hope to get another newsletter out soon.

We had a presence at the Big Musical Picnic and we hope to participate again this year. We would welcome help from any members in manning the stall. We also had a presence at the Diversity Fete the Children's centre organised, but sadly at both events we had very little interest.

This April saw Dr Streeter retiring we are all sorry to see him leave the practice but hope to see him around the village. He has been a great support to all his patients and we are all grateful for his efficient care, compassion and sense of humour. I have to admit he has been my GP for over 30 years and really appreciated his care, he seems to have survived having me as a patient and he now deserves a well-earned change of activities. To sum I up I would like to quote Richard Benns comment about Dr Streeter "his kind and capable "old school ethos" will be greatly missed" I am sure you will all agree with this sentiment.

As patients we held a get together for DR Streeter on the day he retired which was well attended and I will read you part of the Thank you letter I received from DR Streeter In Total over £2000 was raised for Dandelion Time

I am pleased to welcome, Dr Wentzel to our Medical Centre Team and I know he will fit into the team admirably.

I would like to thank all members who have helped this year, especially Peter for his unfailing support and insight, Mo for her minute keeping, Gill and Ian for their work on the newsletter, and Jane for her remarkable and excellent work on the web site and keeping our membership list up to date also all those who helped with Dr Streeter's retirement send off. I would also like to thank the rest of the committee for their support, suggestions and their good humour.

Last but by no means least I would like to thank all the staff at the Medical Centre, especially Nikki and Julie. They have dealt with my frequent visits cheerfully, with patience and have been so supportive. It has been a pleasure working with them.

Again thank you all for coming.

Gill Tarry thanked Sian for her work and Dr Morgan presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

**Medical Centre Annual Report** Dr Potter said there had been increased primary care activity due to increasing age levels and growth of the number of residents in Marden.

Dr Streeter had retired after 33 years. The PRG were thanked for organising his retirement collection for Dandelion Time, which had raised over £2,000.

Dr Jonathan Wentzel had joined the practice. The paramedic is working for 5 days weekly plus 2 sessional GPs and a GP trainee. Marianne is leaving and another nurse is joining. Reception staff are having extra training.

CGC visited the practice and found it 'outstanding' and very caring and well led.

The list size has risen to 6,040. New housing will further increase this number and a modest extension is being considered. The patient/doctor ratio is 2000 patients per full time doctor but many GPs work flexible hours as some working days are very long. The practice receives less than £90 per patient per annum.

Salaries for trainees are met by an outside source.

The Medical Centre opposes large scale development as this would destabilise care and provision given.

There had been a sponsored bike ride.

Dr Potter thanked the Friends of Marden Medical Centre and the PRG for their support.

**Any Other Business:** Julie asked everyone to complete the recent Survey on the website.

This concluded the meeting.