**Minutes of PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP Meeting 30th November 2015**

1. The meeting opened at 1200

Present: Dennis Ford (Chair) DF, Joanna Gibson JG, Karen Hull KH, Elizabeth Hyatt EH,

Joyce Lee JL, Dr. Michele Legg ML, Patrick Legg (Practice Manager) PL, Daniel Perriton DP,

Brenda Reeves BR, Elizabeth Sturton ES and Ronnie Waterman RW.

Also: Members welcomed 3 representatives from AGE UK.

1. Apologies from: Toni Goodley, Alfred Murdoch and Sandy Ramdany.
2. Minutes of previous meeting on 16th September approved without amendment.
3. Matters arising from Minutes:

Has the practice started Saturday morning flu ‘jabs’?

ML: Not yet, and will only do so if circumstances require them.

A brief discussion was held to ascertain members’ views on this time and day for future meetings. Due to pressure of time, the decision was put off for the moment, and DF to consult members early in 2016 for a definitive answer.

1. The majority of the meeting thereafter was taken up, firstly by a presentation from Emma Lincoln on the background and progress so far in making GP surgeries in UK more “Age Friendly”, and latterly with a general question and answer session involving everyone present on how to implement at Tower House the questions posed below:

**AGE UK Presentation:**

A consultation is being undertaken by AGE UK, intended to be completed within 5 years, and funded by lottery money and the World Health Organisation. Covering all aspects of the different topic areas below, as they affect those over 50, with a view to ensuring that surgeries are more accessible for people as they grow older. Tower House is at present a Dementia Friendly surgery.

What should an Age Friendly surgery include?

What does an ‘Age Friendly’ surgery mean to you? E.g. Easy access – slopes/ramps, electric doors, seating with arms for easy in and out, large print posters and a range of communication styles to suit the varied needs of surgery users, kind and patient staff?

Regular transport to and from GP appointments?

What challenges do you face when using the Tower House Surgery?

What aspects of using the surgery are very good and already age friendly?

What needs adapting to improve the surgery?

How does it feel to use the surgery/how should it feel?

ML left the meeting at 1300 to attend a prior engagement, and the representatives from AGE UK left at 1320.

1. Practice Update PL:

The practice has employed an additional Nurse Practitioner to help with the work load increase following Dr. Snow’s departure. Also we are looking to recruit a part-time GP in the near future.

Quite apart from lessening the workload on the GP’s, the employment of nurse practitioners has a number of advantages. They can give more time to patients and are able to prescribe a wide range of medications; but still call upon the help and advice of experienced GP’s if required.

1. Question & Issues from members:

DP suggested putting a note at the foot of our Minutes, when they are put on the practice website, asking if anyone would like to join the PPG.

EH asked if it was possible for the practice to undertake blood tests? The answer was in the negative since: a) It would undermine the viability of the Ryde Community Health Centre, and

b) There is insufficient parking at Tower House.

In reply to RW’s question re the payment of nursing home fees, PL suggested that the answer lay in who requested the patient’s stay? If transferred there by St. Mary’s, to free-up bed space, then the hospital would almost certainly be responsible for the bill, but if requested independently by the patient then it would be down to them.

1. Questions put off until 2016:

The place and value of Locality Health & Wellbeing Forums to the practice? With so

many different Voluntary groups on the Island, how does one bring all that they have

to offer into the public arena? DF

When transferred to a nursing home by St. Mary’s, to whom does one complain

if the experience is below standard? DF

Is the practice likely to benefit from the first tranche of funding from NHS

England? DF

Practice website suggestions DP

What ‘preventative tests’ are available to patients? JL

Does the practice have a specially trained diabetic GP or nurse? ?

Does the practice have any dealings with the Alternative Transport Advisory Group? TG

Put a copy of the Minutes on one of the surgery notice boards? DF

Patient Passports (Matters Arising) PL

Ballot for position of Chair 16/17 PL

1. The meeting closed at 1335, with the date and time of the next meeting to be decided

early in 2016.

If you have any comments or queries you wish to raise at the next meeting, can I have

them please by 15th February so that they can be included in the Agenda

Dennis Ford