

At the Meeting of the Trafalgar Medical Group Practice Patient Participation Group held at Eastney Health Centre on Wednesday 21 February 2024

PRESENT

David Pryke – Chairman

Mrs. Sally Atkins – Nurse Administration Manager

Sister Sam King – Clinical Manager

Mr. David Baynes; Mr. Stephen Bonner; Rev. David – Stephen Butler;
Mr. John Doughty; Ms. Pam Lander Brinkley; Mr. Alan Mortimer???:
Mrs. Jayne Pryke; Mr. Omar Saleh; Mrs. Pat Wainwright; Dr. Godfrey White;
Mr. James Woolgrove; Mr. Derek Wynne

Apologies from: ;

Mrs. Margaret Bell; Mr. Robin Lander Brinkley; Mrs Joan Kooner; Mr. David Steel;
Mrs. Lynne Whicker; Mrs. Barbara White.

1.WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked Stephen Bonner for coming to give us a talk on Portsmouth Pensioners/Voices

He said that, unfortunately, Kerry Budd was now unable to attend this meeting, however Sister Sam King would be able to give an update on Future Planning along with other matters.

He pointed out that any questions for the practice should be sent in advance of the meeting which was to try and ensure that the questions could be fully answered as there was not always an appropriate member of staff at the meeting to give an answer. This would happen for all future meetings.

He also reminded everyone that the meeting was not a forum to discuss personal issues and that these should be directed direct to the Practice.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 October 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

3. PORTSMOUTH PENSIONERS/VOICES

Stephen Bonner gave a talk Portsmouth Pensioners/Voices. He said that Portsmouth Pensioners was formed 32 years ago which had a wealth of experience of pensioners. The association meets on the first Monday of each month with guest speakers invited to speak on various issues which have included the Mary Rose and gardens. It looks at various issues including priorities for pensioners in the future and the triple lock – the UK having the worst pensions in Europe – and they will be campaigning on dentists and GP appointments

Their magazine “Voices” is free and available at various outlets and shops.

There are various activity groups including a knitting group at Buckland Community Centre and an informal cycling group which meets every 2 weeks, weather permitting.

Various trips are arranged including a visit to The Houses of Parliament

Advice is given on Pension Credits

There is an annual Christmas lunch at the Royal Maritime Club.

Membership is £10 per year and covers the PO area.

The Chairman thanked Stephen for his presentation.

4. CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The Chairman reported that he had seen an article in the Daily Echo which stated that people with certain conditions may be able to receive a discount or be exempt from Council Tax

In the UK thousands of people are paying council tax unaware that they could potentially avoid paying the national tax or receive a discount.

It comes as many could be offered a discount if they have been diagnosed by a doctor as “severely mentally impaired” (SMI)

A person's discounts vary depending on if they live with others with some cases potentially meaning that you could be owed money in back payments.

These conditions include: -

- Multiple sclerosis
- Learning difficulties
- Parkinson's
- Dementia (including Alzheimer's)

- Long last effects of a severe stroke

Although these conditions that are classed as part of SMI, a person will need a doctor's diagnosis to be able to apply for the council tax discount.

As well as having an SMI, you also need to be receiving one of the following benefits to receive the discount.

The benefits include:

- Incapacity Benefit
- Attendance Allowance
- Severe Disablement Allowance
- Disability Living Allowance (higher or middle-rate care)
- Increase in Disablement Pension
- Unemployability Supplement or Allowance
- Constant Attendance Allowance
- Income Support (includes a disability premium)
- Personal Independence Payment (standard or enhanced daily living)
- Armed Forces Independence Payment

5. PRACTICE UPDATE

Sally Atkins reported that the Practice had secured a bid for transition funding to get funds to support the mobilisation of the call back ad on for the telephone system. Additional call handling staff were to be employed to allow for the additional call handling which would involve initial training during the first couple of weeks of going live. It was hoped that the new call back system would see a decrease in abandoned calls.

Sam King reported that the clinical team had recently been recruiting and had taken on a new Health Care Assistant bringing the nursing team up to 16. In the last 4 months 4 new GPs had been recruited with a further GP joining in April which takes the GP compliment up to 16. One GP was currently on maternity leave and we would lose a GP in July for a year.

The Practice currently had 3 trainee 1 for 18 months, 1 or 6 months and one for 3 months, Drs Collins and Wilson were the GP trainers in the practice.

The Practice Business Manager, Dave Scarborough, and The HR Manager, Yvonne Gravely were to retire at the end of March. Trudy Mansfield had been appointed new Business Manager and Adam Janering would be the new HR Manager.

The Practice does not own Eastney Health Centre but rents it from NHS Property Servies. Sam had finally won the battle to have the carpets removed from the

corridors and replaced with laminate and at the end of March new windows and blinds would be fitted in all of the rooms. The Practice had taken on two other rooms in the centre and was hoping to secure another 3 in the coming months. This would mean that the Practice would be able to take on more clinical staff as there would be somewhere for them to work.

6. FUTURE PLANNING

Sam King reported that Primary Care Networks were set up several years ago as a way of the Government giving practices money to take part in extra work. Trafalgar Medical Group Practice and Craneswater Practice formed our Primary Care Network with Trafalgar Medical Group Practice and Dr. Singh being the Clinical Director.

Some activities were only Primary Care Network wide such as Covid vaccines. Additional roles can only be assigned by the Primary Care Network and are not Practice funded, these roles included physiotherapists, Social Prescribers and Health Coach and Care Coordinator. There were also some admin roles and these had been recently recruited. The new Primary Care Network Manager was Kerry Budd who had taken over from Trudy Mansfield.

7. WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

There were no written questions.

8. FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings had been arranged for 19 June and 30 October 2024. Arrangements had also been made for a coffee morning on 24 May 2024 between 10 and 11.30am.

Suggestions were made for future presentations on services provided by local pharmacies and mental health provision and the Chairman had received details about Socials for Seniors. The Chairman said that he would endeavour to arrange speakers for these.