

**DUKINFIELD MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENT NETWORK GROUP**  
**Minutes of the meeting held via Teams on 16th January 2024 at 1.30pm**

**Due to the inclement weather, the meeting took place remotely using Teams. Vernon had planned to deliver a presentation on Reiki which will be re-scheduled due to today's circumstances.**

**Present:** Marion Higgins, (Chair) Julie Pregnall, Ann Wright, Joyce Jones (Treasurer), Sheila Frith (Minutes), Brian Malpas, Vernon Marshall-Coulaudon.

**Apologies for absence:** Kath Ratcliffe, Amrit Singh, Joan Drummond, Bhikhu Mistry

### **1. Minutes of the last meeting**

These were approved as a correct record. Most matters arising were covered on the agenda. However, in relation to the timing of meetings going forward, it was agreed that these would now start at 2pm instead of 1.30.

### **2. Treasurer's Report**

Joyce presented her report as follows:

Balance brought forward £975.04.

Less Christmas Activities £518.48

Plus donation of £10 leaves overspend of £8.48 taken from general funds (£56.73 now £48.25)

Total Balance of £456.56.

Grant monies Baby Bundles wool debits of £47.45 (balance £46.24 ) overspend of £1.21 taken from general fund now £47.04. Nil grant funds now for BB wool. Credit donations of £87.03.

Grant BB refreshments and Walking groups' refreshments £61.68 and £68.36 respectively. £125 grant for first aid training still to be used.

Remaining total credit balance £389.11.

She went on to say that she had requested feedback on why our bid was turned down for the Auto Trader Community fund. There were comments including references to our Constitution and the way in which we'd structured the bid using links rather than actual documents. They had also commented that in their opinion, the group/bid was "too Practice led". It was felt that we should seek further advice from Jonathan King at Action Together referencing these comments before we embark on such changes in order to verify whether that is a general view that he would endorse.

Julie Pregnall is now an authorised signatory for the PNG bank account.

**Action: Marion/Sheila/Joyce**

### **3. Evaluation of the Health Event**

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting (attached). This was a very wide ranging discussion with additional suggestions being made, i.e. choosing a name that had more impact and described it better might make it easier to market. It was acknowledged that a lot of experience has been gained and knowledge of organisations within Tameside that can support people has been accrued. Julie said that previously the Practice has organised very targeted events covering an individual condition, i.e. COPD, Diabetes, etc. It was agreed that this was an idea well worth investigating and the topic would be added to the next meeting's agenda in order to fully discuss the shape of future events.

In the meantime, it was agreed to write to St John's Church to thank them for their continued support. Sheila said she would do that.

**Action: Marion/Sheila**

#### **4. Christmas Activities**

A range of activities had been arranged for the Christmas period: a party, distribution of almost 50 seasonal hampers and a craft group. The hampers had been distributed to identified patients, including older people, those living alone and some families. Three local schools had also been involved. They had identified 15 families in a co-worked initiative to deliver toys and seasonal hampers.

The feedback had all been very positive. The party had been well received and the afternoon tea style had made catering much easier, allowing time to be more participative. The craft group had had up to 12 participants, making a range of crafts including cards and Christmas door wreaths. On this basis, it has been agreed to continue with a craft group running on alternate Fridays to Baby Bundles group. Julie has produced a programme. Photographs are available on the Practice's Facebook page.

Donations for the hampers are generous and although it's a challenging job to put them together, and deliver them, it's hugely rewarding. Brian volunteered to help organise some of the associated logistics in future and Vernon also offered to step in for Santa once again. It was suggested that the Yew Tree Singers could be invited to perform at the next event but as they get booked up quite quickly, we'd have to fix a date and approach them.

**Action: All**

#### **5. Gardening Group/LEAP**

Brian was thanked for all his work in keeping the garden at Concord Way looking so nice. The Spring bulbs are beginning to pop through and will soon be a bright and colourful space.

Graham has left LEAP and his replacement is called Kerry. We have so far got one firm volunteer but the focus at the moment is one of the other town projects. Julie will be meeting with JoJo next month. It was acknowledged that we need to continue to promote this initiative.

#### **6. First Aid Training update**

Julie acknowledged that she'd had difficulty identifying a first aid training resource within budget, other than an online source. She felt this wasn't ideal. She will continue with her efforts but asked others to be mindful and make enquiries when possible. She felt that each activity group needed 2 trained first aiders, i.e. 6 in total.

**Action: Julie/All**

#### **7. Any Other Business**

- Marion thanked everyone for their continued contributions to the Baby Bundles stock. She had recently made up over a dozen new gift packs and she said she was hugely impressed with the quality and skills shown. Julie shared a picture of one of the babies who'd recently been gifted and he looked very impressed with his little jacket. Marion said she was going to refresh the notice board in the waiting room and we've been given permission to use this particular photograph.
- Vernon urged people to consider becoming part of the Tameside and Glossop Health and Care Trust. It's an opportune time to get involved as voting will soon take place to nominate officers.

**Item 8 will be re-scheduled**

#### **9. Date of next meeting and AGM**

The next meeting will now be held on 20th February (not the 27th as previously arranged) at Dukinfield Library, Concord Way. It will follow the Annual General Meeting which will be held at 11am.