

DUKINFIELD MEDICAL PRACTICE - PATIENT NETWORK GROUP
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on 7 March 2025 at 1.30 pm at
Dukinfield Library, Concord Way, Dukinfield

1. Present:

2. Apologies: There were no apologies

Marion welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

These were approved.

4. Officers' Reports

4.1 Chairperson's Report

Marion opened her report with a huge thank you to everyone for their hard work and support over the last year. She outlined the main achievements over that period, and highlighted the continued expansion and success of all the Group's activities. She added that a first aid course had been successfully completed by volunteers and others. A copy of her report is attached to these minutes. Kath Ratcliffe asked for it to be recorded how much Marion's work is appreciated by members.

4.2 Treasurer's Report

A copy of Joyce's report is attached to these minutes as is a copy of the account to trial balance. She thanked Kath Ratcliffe for auditing the accounts. Suggestions were made for different organisations who could potentially be approached for funding. These were: Bruntwood, The Cloth Makers' Guild, and the Ward Groups at TMBC. These will be followed up in due course.

5. Nomination of Officers

As no other nominations were made, Marion, Sheila and Joyce were proposed, seconded and appointed to their previous positions for the coming year. Committee members were confirmed as Ann, Amrit, Bhikhu, Kath, Brian, Julie, Charlie. It was acknowledged that other people are still very much involved but who are able to offer a more limited commitment. Marion urged anyone who is interested in being involved at any level to contact us and Simone Ellams expressed interest. It was agreed she would attend the PNG meeting which followed the AGM.

6. Any Other Business

Julie reported on necessary changes to the website driven by government requirements to improve the way the site can be navigated. She and Geoff have worked together. She asked for a couple of volunteers who would be able to "test" the new website with emphasis on particular areas. Brian and Roger volunteered. It was also agreed that Geoff would circulate the link to other members who could try it for themselves. We were told it's not a live system and therefore people can try out different situations and feed back any issues that may arise.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.20 pm.

DMP PATIENT NETWORK GROUP

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT FOR THE AGM HELD ON 7 MARCH 2025

Firstly, welcome to everybody and a thank you to all who have supported the PNG this last year.

What Have we Achieved?

We have been very fortunate in securing 2 grants which have enabled us to expand our activities. Joyce will detail those for us in her Treasurer's Report.

Baby Bundles - this activity has, and still is expanding in numbers. We have a regular meeting of 12-14 ladies each time we meet and our ladies who work from home. We expanded this last year to being able to make lap blankets. This enabled us to use all our bits and bobs of yarn so there is no waste. Photos of our achievements can be seen in the Practice, on our website and newsletters.

Craft Activity - The group of craft makers has also managed to achieve some lovely items for their homes or as gifts (again, photographs as above). Grant funding has allowed them to plan activity and acquire craft materials to see them through the year.

Sow and Grow - This activity has probably been the one that requires more support. Brian, Julie and Libby have worked in all weathers and have been successful in growing vegetables at the allotment. Hopefully as summer approaches, we'll be successful in persuading/recruiting a few more volunteers.

Brian - Thank you to Brian who has worked wonders with the Practice garden. I'm sure he'll do the same again this year.

Health Walking Activity - This activity has also continued to be very successful and has expanded both in numbers and destinations. Mostly, the walk is in Dukinfield Park but visits have been arranged further afield including Stamford Park, Alexandra Park, Oldham, Glossop and Mayfield Depot in Manchester.

Christmas Party - Once again, we managed to fund and arrange a Christmas Party at Dukinfield Cricket Club, this year through funding for carers (Joyce will expand). We invited carers and their caree for a Christmas afternoon tea, Santa, bingo etc.

Christmas Hampers - Christmas would not be Christmas without a gift. Again, we managed to make up and deliver 45 food hampers and 5 family hampers to patients and families nominated by the Practice.

Newsletter - A thank you to Geoff for his continued work on driving our quarterly newsletters, and those others who have had input on the way. A special thank you to the Partners, doctors and staff who have managed to provide us with some invaluable articles. Thank you also to our volunteer organiser, Kath, and the delivery team.

Recruitment Drive - We held a recruitment drive to enable us to gain more support from patients who may be interested in joining us and becoming involved in our activities and ideas. A few suggestions were made and we're taking time to arrange and organise.

Vernon - I cannot make this report without mentioning a very sad loss of a valued member of the committee. Vernon Marshall was a very effective and active committee member who will be much missed.

Sheila, Joyce and Julie - Last but certainly not least, I want to say a personal thank you to these ladies for all the hard work and support they give to the group.

Marion Higgins, Chairperson

DMP PATIENT NETWORK GROUP

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE AGM HELD ON 7 MARCH 2025

From the copy of the accounts issued, I will go through and explain same. £107.69 was brought forward in bank from last year. We put in an application to Locala of Bradford, part of NHS, and under same ethos (ie Health and Wellbeing) and were fortunate enough to be granted their full funding award of £1,500 from March 2024 to March 2025. We fitted their criteria with two activities - Baby Bundles and Craft Activity. Both activities benefit participants learning new skills, socialising and combating isolation and loneliness. Grant monies have to be spent locally, also helping local business, i.e. Artificial Flower Shop in Hyde.

The allotment (Sow and Grow) is a relatively new venture and has very little funding to date. It is hoped it will develop in the future and that funding can be found to support this.

Christmas hampers were able to be given out but again due to a shortage of funds, Baby Bundles participants stepped in with an additional gift of a handmade lap blanket. Donations came from Practice patients and donations.

The DMP Carers' and Caree Christmas party received £125; an award applied for from Forever Manchester, which was spent on sandwiches. The rest of the costs for this were provided from DMP and private donations.

The balance of cash in the bank is now £42.79. Activities need future funding if they are to continue.

Unfortunately, our current bank is to start to charge for the account at £51 p.a. plus other transactional charges. Due to insufficient funds to cover this, it has to be suggested that the account is closed and free alternative banking is found. This will be discussed at the next PNG meeting.

As can be seen, funding for 2025 is an issue but please be aware that all activities have been very successful and thanks are given to all those involved.

I would also like to thank Kath Ratcliffe for auditing the accounts.

Joyce Jones, Treasurer