

**DUKINFIELD MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENT NETWORK GROUP
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23rd JUNE 2026 AT DUKINFIELD MEDICAL
PRACTICE, CONCORD WAY, DUKINFIELD AT 1.00PM**

Present: Marion Higgins (Chair), Sheila Frith (Secretary), Joyce Jones (Treasurer), Charlie Garside, Bhikhu Mistry, Margaret Mason, Simonne Ellams, Julie Pregnall, Kath Ratcliffe

Apologies: Amrit Singh, Roger Acheson, Ann Wright, Brian Malpas

1. Minutes of the last meeting

These were approved and there were no matters arising that were not included on the current agenda.

2. Treasurer's Report and Update on new bank account

Finally the PNG has been accepted for a Royal Bank of Scotland Community Fund free Business account.

£83.23 Growing Together credit balance and £30.63 General fund has been transferred into this new bank account. Total £113.86. Julie was given debit card and pin and Joyce also has debit card and a pin but it is envisaged most transactions will be electronic.

All previous expenditure has been recorded in relevant minutes which are available on the DMP web site. With the new bank account in place, Joyce has handed all previous, historical receipts, documents etc., to Julie for archiving in line with standard procedures (ie retained for 7 years).

3. Newsletter Update and Topics for next edition

There was unanimous approval of the most recent edition of the newsletter. Julie reported that paper copies are available in the waiting room. She prints 15-20 copies at a time and these are being taken regularly from reception. Check with Geoff to identify what website activity has been. We discussed items for inclusion in the next edition, due in approximately September. It was agreed that the editorial sub-group will hold a meeting at 10am on 16th July 2026 at DMP to bring it together and bring to the next PNG Meeting. Several topics were suggested and individual group members have taken responsibility for producing an article. Thanks were extended to Lydia for her sterling work on the graphic design. Julie confirmed that, certainly for the time being, she is happy for the arrangement to continue but stressed that content must be generated by the committee itself.

Action: Julie/Sheila/Marion/Brian/Bhik/Joyce

4. Patient Feedback Forms

Julie reported on recent Friends and Family data. The data has shown some conflicting and ambiguous findings. She felt that there were possible reasons which would explain the differences. The collection tools/questions can be interpreted in more than one way which could offer some explanations. The forms that will be used to collect more specific information directly from patients have now been agreed and are ready. Simonne and Marion will be leading on information collection in the waiting room with patients.

Action: Julie/Marion/Simonne

5. Fund Raising

The next agenda item was included in this discussion as they cover similar areas. Raising funds with which to run activities is a challenge. Finding grants that support existing activities is difficult. We wanted to consider historical funding avenues in order to identify as many opportunities as possible. This was a wide ranging, diverse discussion, examining options that are realistically available to us. Action Together has been the “umbrella” organisation through which previous grants have been successfully identified. There are also other well established routes such as The Round Table, Rotary Club etc., which offer funding but we need to research the “cycles” they have for when applications can be submitted. Margaret also said that the WI in Stalybridge is another organisation to try. She will contact them and Sheila will contact Action Together.

Action: Margaret/Sheila

6. Any Other Business

There was no further business.

7. Date of next Meeting

Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 1pm at Dukinfield Medical Practice.