**The Cottage Surgery**

[www.thecottagesurgery.co.uk](http://www.thecottagesurgery.co.uk/)

**Patient Participation Group [PPG]**

**Draft Minutes of the Meeting on Tuesday, 8.1.19 – 6.00pm at the Cottage Surgery**

1. **Attendance**: Present were Rod Hudson (Treasurer), Claire Ayres, Marsha Blisset, Colin Brookes,   
Karenna Galer-Coombes, Ann Irving, Liz Shrives, Sue Taylor, Sharon Clay (Practice Manager),   
Dr. Steve Clay (GP) and Margaret Taylor (Secretary).  
Apologies were received from Les Pole (Chairman) and David Harris (Assistant Practice Manager)  
In the absence of the Chairman the meeting was chaired by Karenna Galer-Coombes.

2. **Minutes of the Meeting on 18.9.18**: These, having been previously circulated, were approved.

3. **Treasurer’s Report**: Rod Hudson informed the meeting that there had been one major expenditure since the last meeting, a sum of £420 to Wainwrights for repairs to the drive. Approximately £150 remained in the fund.

4. **Matters arising** not otherwise on the agenda:   
a) Staff: The meeting was pleased to hear that the new staff now feel part of the team.  
b) First Aid training: Sue Taylor told the meeting that the training session had taken place as planned and 26 enthusiastic people had taken part and also contributed more than £110 to support Shepshed Responders who had helped lead the training. The meeting agreed that repeated training was necessary and plans to hold another session in 2019. Sue Taylor was thanked for organising this.  
c) Vestibule carpet: The vestibule carpet is worn and in need of replacement Ann will send Sharon Clay information about the hard wearing carpet used in the village hall.

5. **Surgery Access**: Margaret reported on the meetings she and Colin Brookes had had with the Wainwrights about the dangerous state of the drive. It was not possible to persuade them to allow the drive to be tarmacked but they had agreed to fill in the potholes with mill waste in return for a payment of £350 + £70 VAT, which the majority of the PPG had reluctantly agreed should be paid in order to prevent accidents. (report and receipt attached) There was a little discussion about the need for a separate access drive, the planning and costs involved and possible sources of funding. Sharon Clay will be meeting with the Methodist Church district superintendent to see if there can be some cooperation. It was suggested that the West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group should be told of the PPG’s concern about the need for separate access and the availability of the Section 106 money relating to the new housing already completed in Woodhouse Eaves.

6. **Good Neighbours Scheme**: Claire Ayres provided the meeting with a chart showing the use of the Scheme and reported that the scheme continues to provide a helpful service, with the 18 active volunteers and a total of 614 jobs since the scheme began. *(continued on p.2*

*6. Good Neighbours Scheme – continued)* p.2

A letter had been received informing us of a community fair to be organised by the Good Neighbours Scheme on March 24th 2019 from 2.00 pm until 4.30 pm and asking if we wished to have a stall. It was agreed that we should be present and Karenna, Marsha and Margaret volunteered to arrange it.

7. **WLCCG PPG Network**: Margaret informed the meeting that she had not been able to attend the last PPG Network meeting, nor had Ann Irving who had hoped to go. The next meeting is to be on Thursday, January 24th at 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm at the NSPCC Training Centre. Margaret intends to go and asked for volunteers to accompany her. Claire will check her diary. Work by Better Care Together and the LLR Alliance on providing care nearer home and on making the care provision more effective is continuing but there is nothing specific to report at this time.

8. **NHS 10 Year Plan**: Members had noted the recent publicity about the NHS 10 year plan. This sparked some discussion about the tendency to proliferate new plans rather than amend and fulfil previous plans, the problems with the way in which NHS organises its funding and the demoralizing effect of this on recruiting and maintaining front line staff.   
Colin Brookes reported that he had had further correspondence with a number of key people about the problems raised by privatisation of NHS contracts with providers of services and materials, particularly pharmaceuticals. Response to his letters had not been satisfactory. The PPG considered who might be key to making the necessary changes and what action we might take to support them in taking action. As a first step we agreed to try to arrange a meeting with the Member of Parliament for Woodhouse Eaves.  
Karenna asked about the suggestion in the news report on the 10 year plan that consultants should hold clinics in GP surgeries. Dr. Clay pointed out that there was no room for such clinics at the Cottage Surgery. Margaret mentioned the development of GPs with special interests being available to give advice to patients from a group of practices and D. Clay pointed out the impact of that on the GP’s time with his or her own patients.

9. **Patients’ feedback**: In reply to a question was asked about the availability and take up of flu   
 vaccinations Sharon Clay explained the problems caused by late changes in the NHS specifications,   
 delays in the availability of the appropriate vaccines and the extra work involved in providing different   
 vaccines for patients in different age groups. Dr. Clay told us that, although a pharmacist should   
 inform a patients’ GP when a vaccine has been given, that did not always happen. There is still   
 concern that pharmacists do not always have enough information or back-up provision to give the   
 vaccine safely in every case.

There being no further business the PPG agreed to meet again on Tuesday, April 9th at 6.00 pm   
 at the surgery.

Margaret Taylor 9.1.19