**Abridge Surgery**

**Narrative Minute of PPG meeting**

**Wednesday 17th June 2015 at 19.00 (by David Riches)**

**Attending**: Jennifer Cresswell, Michael Hall, Arthur Moody (visiting speaker), Sybil Padfield, David Riches, John Smith, M. C. Stubbins, Angela Vane, and Sandy Wood.

This special meeting did not follow the proposed agenda and comment and suggestions were not generally owned. Michael Hall co-ordinated.

**Visiting speaker Arthur Moody, Chair, Ongar Patient Forum.**

The Ongar group was started three years ago by the senior partner, Hugh Taylor, under some pressure from the CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group chaired by Dr Rob Gerlis). The CCG is in charge of West Essex Surgeries and has a budget of £300.000.000.

The purpose of the PPG is to help patients meet and have dialogue with practice, doctors and nurses to move practice forward for doctors and patients. Not a medical forum but definitely administration led.

Ongar Forum has guest speakers the last of which, from Ashford in Kent, spoke on the subject of the 111 service for contacting the NHS. There was an invitation for the Forum to visit the centre in Ashford or Ipswich. Visiting nurses spoke of health requirements when travelling. A visitor from St Clare’s Hospice described the hospice system and the ethical requirements.

The speakers invited to Abridge would depend on what we wanted to do; Ongar use GPs a lot – they have four GPs and a further two joining. Two GPs attended their meetings on a regular basis*.* It was suggested that Abridge Surgery Doctors be invited to these PPG meetings.

Ongar senior partners attended speaking on medical matters such as cancer, diabetes and arthritis. It was thought that nurses at Abridge would attend and cover matters of health importance.

To invite a speaker such as Rob Gerlis it would need a good attendance and need to advertise. Facilities for Power Point and slide presentations are available at the village hall which could be featured in advertising on the Abridge web site which also carries the minutes of meetings.

The Ongar surgery possesses a display screen to invite membership of their forum; they also use Ongar News as we use Link-Up. Sign up forms are available at the Abridge Surgery. As many now have PCs or Lap-tops e-mails are sent to remind of meetings. A leaflet may also be given to those attending to collect repeat prescriptions.

**Other Matters**

* A Hospital visit costs £200; the Surgery £2! Are there too many visits for prescriptions? Patients often wish to see the doctor who is familiar with their problems – this also saves time. Communication with PAH is too often terminated without warning leaving patients without response.
* A noticeboard has been created dedicated to Patient feedback including Patient Participation and the Friends and Family Test. This includes positive feedback from patients and the minutes of PPG meetings are kept. If there is any further information that the group feel that they would like to be displayed please contact Amanda Marcovitch at the surgery.

**To follow from previous meetings.**

1. Election of Honorary Officers. This was not discussed as those eligible were unable to attend the meeting. David Riches agreed to chair the next meeting as a one-off.
2. Discussion agreed three-monthly meetings.
3. A coffee evening was suggested as an addition.
4. Visiting speakers to be followed up.
5. Ambulance delivery locations to be considered.
6. The value of hospitals in the area was considered and will be carried forward.
7. Suggested use of Face Book, Twitter and a ‘Virtual Group’ to be considered.
8. Use of Link-Up.
9. Discussed the opening of a satellite Pharmacy at the Surgery

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING TO BE CONFIRMED** – likely to be in September.