

Ambrose Avenue PPG

Minutes of January 8, 2018, meeting

Present Roly Buss (chair), Ray Hardisty (secretary), Linda Meredith, Mavis Knight, Pam Robertson and Elaine Hippisley

2 Apologies: Clive and Irene Swift, Andrea Anderson, Marilyn Rivett, Marita Ling, and Gwen Standen

3 Minutes: The record of the meeting on November 13 was agreed as a true record.

4 Cancellation: Members noted the planned meeting on December 11 had been cancelled due to the weather.

5 Practice Report: Elaine reported:

a) A second team leader for reception had been selected from existing staff.

b) A number of other reception staff changes had taken place. Everyone was settling in or getting used to slight changes. Bonding and learning continued. One training session had taken place and another was planned.

c) A new nurse practitioner had started who, it was intended, would concentrate on patient visits outside the surgery.

d) The practice still had a supply of flu vaccine and would encourage all those who had not done so to have the flu jab before the end of March.

e) Winter pressures were being felt at both Ambrose and Tollgate but the practice was coping. More patients than usual were following self care.

f) A car had damaged a lamp post near the Ambrose surgery. Repairs were awaited but it had not affected use of the building.

6 PPG Membership: Ray reported:

Active 17, Reserve 13, Supporters 262. Total 292

7 Newsletter:

Ray would create the January newsletter to reflect the winter pressures message given by Elaine at the current meeting

8 AGM 2018

Members confirmed the November decisions to hold the March AGM at Tollgate Surgery starting at 6.30pm in the waiting area could be used.

Speakers from ACE and Oaks Hospital had agreed to attend.

9 Suggestion boxes

No comments received.

11 Outreach.

Plans were made for Friday January 26

The following one was noted as Monday February 26

12 Coffee Mornings for Patients

Ray thanked Mavis for her help in speaking to churches at both Stanway and Prettygate towards joint use of social facilities for patients. Final arrangements still had to be tied up but it was planned to start in April.

13 North East Essex Health Forum.

- a) The agenda for the January Local Health Matters public meeting was tabled.
- b) Members noted the content of the January Colchester PPG Liaison meeting which Ray will chair.

14 Newsbreaks

Ray tabled details of press releases from the NEECCG available from him if members wanted.

15 Any other Business:

- a) Roly queried whether test results could be obtained online rather than having to go through a receptionist. Elaine said she would check on the procedure.
- b) Roly sought clarification on the current practice attitude towards diabetes blood sugar monitoring as new style procedures had been approved for use by the NHS but the understood the North East Essex CCG had decided not to fund it.

Pam was following the system, obtained privately, at a cost of £100 a month.

Elaine said she would make enquiries and report back

16 Outcomes

- a) The positive planning of informational talks for patients at the AGM was welcomed.
- b) Appointment of the new nurse practitioner was welcomed.
- c) It was also good to hear of the continuing strengthening of the reception team.
- d) News of two training sessions for reception staff and continuation of team building.
- e) It had been good to discuss test results availability online and new testing procedures for diabetes patients.
- f) Progress was being made towards the group inspired social contact referrals through coffee mornings.

16 Next meeting

Monday February 12 at 6pm at Tollgate surgery.