

# Ambrose Avenue PPG

## Minutes of November 9, 2020, meeting

**1 Present:** Roly Buss (chair), Ray Hardisty (secretary), Kevin Starling, Carrie Ransom, Val White, Marilyn Rivett, Trevor Ireland, Carol Brand, and Robert Brand.

**2 Apologies:** Jane Alexander, Mary Russell, Mavis Finch, Elaine Hippisley and Helen Moucher

**3 Resignation:** Ray reported that Mavis had resigned from the PPG because she was about to move away from the area. He had sent an email thanking her for her long service and active contribution to the group.

**4 Minutes:** Minutes of the October 21 PPG were accepted as a correct record.

**5 Matters arising:** None

**6 Practice Report:**



PPG practice report  
Nov 2020.docx

**7 PPG comments:**

a) Members agreed the closure of Ambrose Avenue due to staff shortages should form the November newsletter so as many patients were informed as possible.

b) Success of the new Practice Facebook page monitored by Kevin was noted and welcomed as an extra way of keeping in touch with patients and the public.

c) There was general comments about the usefulness of the NHS app and the latest COVI-19 app linked to national Test and Trace.

d) Trevor said it was a pity the online appointment booking system was not functioning at the moment but he understood the current difficulties in allocating appointments due to the current pressures.

**7 Updates on PPG membership:** Ray reported the total still stood at 378 .... Active (13), Reserve (15) and Supporter 350. No change.

**8 Diversity:** Marilyn outlined her concerns over the lack of diversity in the active group of the PPG. She knew there were a number of patients in the Practice from a range of different backgrounds and considered it was disappointing that none were active members of the group.

Ray said he shared her feelings, especially as the virtual supporter group had a number of patients from different ethnic backgrounds represented. He said he had suggested to each new member, from all sources, that they consider taking part in the monthly meetings but, so far without success.

Through general discussion on the topic, members considered that little would change while the active group had to meet on Zoom and, of course, there was no active outreach, both due to the pandemic.

It was agreed the topic should be revisited if and when restrictions are eased.

### **9 Newsletter:**

Members agreed the November edition should tell members about the two weeks of Ambrose Avenue closure and the extra Flu session..

### **10 North East Essex Health Forum**

a) October Colchester PPGs Liaison Meeting .... Ray and Trevor reported verbally on the main topics raised.

b) Local Health Matters. Those on the Health Forum mailing list had been sent details of a number of videos on services aimed at keeping members and the public informed. They could all be accessed 24/7.

**11 North East Essex Alliance End of Life Group ...** Ray again mentioned an immediate meeting of the group but no-one present was interested in attending..

### **Any Other Business**

None

### **12 Outcomes**

a) Hearing of the successful launch of the new Practice Facebook page.

b) Having the opportunity to discuss the lack diversity in the PPG.s active membership.

c) Understanding that all pharmacies, care homes, district nurses, midwives and child health visitors etc, had a bypass telephone number to use to get in touch with the Practice.

### **17 Next meeting**

Monday, December 14, again on Zoom, at 6pm.