

[REDACTED]



In the Staplehurst Health Centre

Present: Andrew Watson Chair
 Pamela Rapp Acting Secretary
 Elaine Handover Practice Manager
 And 16 further members

Welcome: Andrew Watson welcomed everyone to his first meeting as the new Chairman of the PPG.

Apologies: Cllr Joan Buller, Alaine and Brian Summers.

Minutes of the last PPG AGM:
The minutes of the AGM held on 24th October were agreed as accurate.

Matters Arising:
There were no matters arising.

Health Centre News:

- Elaine indicated that the Health Centre is still understaffed (1 Doctor, 1 Secretary) and advertising for the posts is ongoing.
- Installation of the new telephone system is still no further forward and has still to be delivered.
- The Saturday 9am-1pm opening of the Health Centre is proving successful. Elaine reminded us again that there are late evening surgeries, open until 8pm, within the Weald Practices (Marden and Cranbrook).
- Elaine raised the possibility of lunchtime closure of the Health Centre from 1pm-2pm to allow a staff break and catch-up. However, the matter will be discussed as to its feasibility, in order to address any problems that could occur, e.g. no appointments made and collection of prescriptions. The 1 in 6 week closure for training purposes will continue.

- There was reassurance from Elaine that flu vaccinations for 2019 have been ordered already in the hope that there will be no reoccurrence of the 2018 problems.

Friends News - Robin Oakley:

- The new ECG digital machine is now in regular use. Training on the new Ankle Brachial Pressure Index Screening equipment has still to be completed. The purchase of these two items has cost £3861.
- The Xmas draw raised £440 - less than 2017. The reduced ticket sales were due to reduced sales opportunities because of the delayed arrival of the flu vaccines.
- The Friends will have a table at the Staplehurst Safety Event to be held in the Village Centre on 23rd February.
- The next Newsletter will be issued on 11th February, The next Friends AGM will be held on 6th March at 7.15pm.

Any Other Business:

- The question of Counselling provided by the Health Centre was raised. It was pointed out that the Health Centre is not currently set up to provide any form of Counselling. Before any such service could be provided, it would be necessary to establish the type of counselling required. In view of the Government's intended release of funds to the NHS, this situation could change in the future.
- The problem of DNAs was raised. It was understood that the most likely solution would be IT-based.

Information Only - No Action:

- Robin Kenworthy mentioned the reorganisation of the Kent and Medway Cardiac Vascular Unit has been delayed, but that it is likely that Maidstone Hospital will remain a centre.
- During Robin's mobility testing it was stated by the authority that the pavement outside his house were not safe. Requirements for a safe route from Pinnock Lane to the Station is a requirement acknowledged by Maidstone Borough Council. Parish Councillor Paddy Riordan, who was also present, assured the meeting that this issue will be raised by the Parish Council. It was pointed out that any accidents caused by uneven pavements/roads will only cause an increase in the Health Centre's workload.

Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on 10th April at 7.15pm in the Health Centre.