**Alton Patient Participation Group**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 12th September 2023**

**at 10.00 am**

**Present:** **Dorothy Clohesy (Chair), Heather Hall (Practice Manager), Angie Hurst, Yvonne Somerville and**

 **Elaine Plant (Secretary)**

 **DC** welcomed everyone back after the August break and the meeting commenced.

 Details had been passed on to a prospective new group member who had expressed an interest in the group but as yet they had not arrived.

**1. Apologies**: Carol Edwards and David Edwards

**2. Minutes of the last meeting:**

The minutes were a true record of the last meeting on the 11th July 20 23.

**3. Matters Arising:**

 **Health & Wellbeing – Community Bus Project:**

Kerrie has been on holiday so we haven’t had much feedback. DC suggested that Kerri could attend our next meeting if available to give us an update. Getting volunteer drivers would be the problem especially with enhanced insurance being required. HH mentioned a NHS volunteer service that could possibly be able to help but she would find out more details. Details had also been put on Facebook by AH.

 **Healthwatch Visit:**

As yet no report received. Most members completed the survey.

 **Telephone System:**

 **HH** reported that the provider they were using for the new system, who did all of the Surgery IT, was not on the NHS framework of approved suppliers despite being a part of the NHS so basically they have to go back to square one and start all over again. A lengthy discussion took place which included a query on Dispensary hours. It was confirmed that the Dispensary could be contacted by phone between 9am and 1pm for ordering prescriptions but collections hours were between 11am and 1pm and 3pm until 5.45pm excepting Thursdays.

 **Parking:**Members who were able were parking on the Village Hall Car Park as requested.

 **Dr Leggett’s Maternity Leave:**

 **HH** confirmed that Dr Jolly would be covering 2 or 3 sessions per week with Dr Brown and Dr Hampton covering the rest. This is planned from the end of October until April.

 **Physicians Associate -** hopefully will be employed next year. **Physician associates** ***support doctors in the diagnosis and management of patients. They can prescribe if they have completed a higher level of training.***

 **YS** reported on **Carers’ Group Meeting**. New 5 year draft being drawn up. Discussion took place on the value of this. Care in the Community can be very confusing with different information given.

 **ICC- YS** had no information so far.

 **Pharmacy Technician/Clinical Pharmacist.** Work with all of the \*PCN and attend Alton usually once a week.

 \*PCN – Primary Care Network is a shared pot of staff between Practices in our locality. Alton will always have the smallest share because we are the smallest practice.

**4. Reports:**

 **DC Breast Screening:** Over 70’s need to apply unless there is a problem then they should visit their GP.

 **Flu Jabs** have arrived and vaccinations will commence shortly.

 **Covid Jabs** will not be done at JCB any longer. Available at Alton Surgery shortly for vulnerable and over 65’s.

 **AH - ICB** Ex-smokers over 55 can apply to be accepted on a programme for lung testing. Criteria needs to be met.

 **YS** had been asked to mention the Hedgecutting at the surgery. It is on contract and usually done in the Autumn.

 **HH** circulated a leaflet from Healthwatch which she would email through to members.

 **YS** asked about signposting for patients. This is still available for patients and depends on services required.

 i.e. Community Nurses or Social Services. Patients cannot be referred without their consent unless it is a Safeguarding issue.

**5. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 10th October at 10.00 am**

 **Future Meetings: Tuesdays 14th November and 12th December commencing at 10.00am.**