Notes from the PPG meeting, 13th December 2017

Present: Alan Mordue[Practice Manager,] Dr Sharon Dixon, Kathryn Wilkinson[PPG Chair.]Tony Hallett, Greg Birdseye, Sister Helen Banks, Andrew Shaknove, Anita Lightstone, Malcolm Bourner, Sylvia Martineau, Marianne Puxley. Apologies: Pat O’Neill [Practice Administrator,] Grant Audley Miller, Susanna Geddes.

1. From the previous minutes

Online membership has now increased to 26.

The Partners are working on plans for a more interactive website.

A Health Walk pilot before Christmas was well supported and Steph, from Oxford Council, will be leading 12 weeks of walks, starting on 10thJanuary, 11 am for an hour, starting from Donnington surgery. Please spread the word!

A pilot programme, organised by OxFed, placing volunteers in GP practices, in roles such helping with online access, is coming to an end. Donnington might keep an eye on a possible extension and make a bid.

2. STP developments

Kathryn encouraged members to take note of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan for Oxford City. A summary of the primary care proposals has been handed out at previous meetings and a copy is ATTACHED. Alan spoke to the section on priority areas and emphasised their importance in keeping people out of hospital. Consultations will be organised by the Oxford Clinical Commissioning Group, and the PPG will draw attention to these. Members are encouraged to Google Healthwatch, if able to do so. This is a source of information on consultations and other patient related issues and local developments in care.

3. Practice Managers input-the digital future.

Alan identified some of the changes which new technology, artificial intelligence and ‘big data’ are bringing to society in general and health care in particular. He cited examples such as telehealth, data that enables self-monitoring, and efficiencies in care. Such changes can threaten established ways of working and patient expectations and bring a differentiation between those comfortable with internet use and others. Sharon emphasised that these changes also brings benefits to GP work, especially in respect of well-informed patients. However, there are threats from, for example, the ‘Babylon’ service we heard about at the last meeting, which could drain GP funding and leave practices with the most difficult cases. Alan emphasised that local GPs and managers were working together to counter some of these possibilities and keep ‘ahead of the game.’

4. PPG Action Plan review

Greg’s review on widening membership was postponed to the next meeting.

Alan and Kathryn would welcome comments on what you would like to see in a revised PPG action plan.

5. There was no AOB.

The next meeting will be on 7th February 2018, 6pm to 7pm, Donnington Practice.

Further dates will be posted on the website in due course.