

Robert Frew Patient Partnership Group
Minutes of 38th Meeting Held 15th July 2013
At The Robert Frew Medical Centre

Present

Jacqueline Coleman Chair
Gareth Williams Vice Chair
John Langley Secretary

Tony Burr, Dr Shirin Chakera, Lesley Cogan, Len Coles, Dr Tony Ogunsanya, Colleen Shelley, Janet Whitaker.

The meeting commenced at 6.55 pm.

38/01 Apologies

Apologies were received from Jennifer Wall, Carol Groves, Brenda Last and Alan Ursell.

38/02 Minutes of meeting dated 17th June and matters arising

38/02.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record and signed accordingly. There were no matters arising.

38/03 Annual election of officers 2013

38/03.1 Subsequent to the process agreed upon at the last group meeting (minute 37/04.4 refers), two nominations were received – one from Lesley Cogan for the position of Vice Chair and one from Alan Ursell for the position of Treasurer.

38/03.2 Of the votes received, there were no abstentions or votes against either nominee and the 'for' votes were as follows:-

Lesley Cogan – 10 votes
Alan Ursell – 9 votes

38/03.3 Both candidates were therefore duly elected to the positions of Vice Chair and Treasurer respectively to take up their positions with effect from the group's August meeting. LC
AU

38/03.4 There then followed a discussion as to how the group may move forward with regards to the positions of Chair and Secretary.

38/03.5 Len Coles proposed that he would put himself forward for the position of Chair with a view to reviewing these two positions again in November and providing John Langley continued as Secretary until then. John Langley agreed to this proposal but stated that he must step down as Secretary by November at the very latest.

38/03.6 Members present gave a unanimous vote of approval to this proposal and Len Coles was duly elected as Chair with effect from the group's August meeting. LC

38/04 Presentation from William Guy on pathology testing

38/04.1 William Guy (Head of Out of Hospitals Commissioning at NHS South West Essex) was welcomed to the meeting and gave the group an overview as to how the initial decision of moving pathology services to Bedford had been arrived at. He then hosted a Q & A session on this subject.

38/04.2 The group expressed its concern that the CCG were not more diligent at the time of inheriting this item from the now defunct PCT but were also pleased to learn that the CCG has now identified major issues with this proposed contract and are currently investigating ways to move forward that will address these issues. The group were advised that the most likely of these may be withdrawal from the centralisation, 'Bedford', contract and the introduction of some form of a more localised solution.

38/04.3 William also advised that there is currently being considered a proposal to modernise and streamline stroke treatment pathways but assured the group that the lessons learnt from the mishandling of the 'Bedford' contract would be applied to this proposal.

38/04.4 William further promised to keep the group advised of progress on both of these above issues and undertook to revisit the group once he had more definitive information – probably before the end of 2013.

WG

38/05 Update on recent press articles concerning the surgery

38/05.1 Jackie Coleman and John Langley briefed the group on information provided to them earlier by Dr Ogunsanya on circumstances surrounding the allegation of non-fitness to practise levelled at three partners in the practice.

38/05.2 This allegation had been fully investigated by both the BMA and NHS England and neither have found any grounds to substantiate the allegation.

38/05.3 With the complainant's stated intention not to let the matter drop the surgery felt that relations between him and themselves had broken down irretrievable and they had no option but to remove him from their list.

38/05.4 After a short discussion, all PPG members present wished it to be recorded that they fully support all the surgery's actions in this matter.

38/05.5 Tony Burr also suggest that it may be a good idea if the surgery had access to some form of 'Press Officer' should any issue of this nature occur in the future.

38/06 Renewal of NAPP membership

38/06.1 John Langley advised the group that its NAPP affiliation membership was due for renewal.

38/06.2 On behalf of the surgery, Colleen Shelley agreed to fund this membership again this year – many thanks to Colleen.

38/07 Date of next meeting

38/07.1 The next group meeting will be held on 19th of August 2013 at 6.30 pm.

All

38/08 A.O.B.

38/08.1 There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.06 pm.

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Signatures

Chair

Vice Chair

Secretary

Treasurer