

**MINUTES**

**WOODHILL PATIENTS GROUP MEETING**

**MAYFIELD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**MONDAY, 11TH MAY 2015, 7.30PM**

Apologies:- Margaret Neve; Alf and Meriel Thompson; Andrew Watson; Fiona Lydon Watson; Michael Hore; Elizabeth Keating; Marion Dixson; Carolyn Freedman

Present:- John Gaunt, Chair; Bill Dixson, Deputy Chair; David Miles; Warwick Child; Brian and Shirley Playfoot; Peter Deller; Jan Deller; Deveda Redman; Paul Camic; Dr. Jan Rich; Ann Adam; Ronald Adam; Kirsten; David & Anthea Bateman; Dr. Deveda Redman; Johnny Marsh; Neil and Jane Wade; Herb Hills; Edwina Miles; Liz Lincoln; David Robson; Alison Dixon; Betsy Dixon; Gill Child; Angela Butler; Sue Wren; Chris Foy; Susan Glover; Happiness Chinyimba; Mary Vernon; Ian and Mary Rutherford; Jeanette Hore (Secretary); with apologies to those whose names we have omitted

Guest Speakers:- Kim Grosvenor, C.C.G.’s Senior Project Manager in Dementia Transformation; Jo Evans, C.E.O., Rotherfield St. Martin; Rachel Lewis, Chief Officer, TN22 Club

J.G. welcomed all the guest speakers and attendees.

**Kim Grosvenor, C.C.G.’s Senior Project Manager in Dementia Transformation:**

Kim introduced herself and began with a quiz to have an understanding of the audience’s knowledge of dementia. She then talked about the definition of dementia. She reported that East Sussex has the highest percentage of population in the country suffering from dementia. The costs of treating dementia outstrip other areas of health. She said dementia can be very isolating for the sufferer. Secondary care historically has been used rather than primary care to treat dementia but this is to be changed. She said GPs are reluctant to diagnose dementia. Future plans involve providing more advanced training for GPs specifically in dementia and having a lead nurse in most surgeries.

In the new model of assessment and diagnosis service, a multi-disciplinary team will visit the dementia sufferer and carer in their own home, arrange for a scan if necessary, deliver a diagnosis and then activate a ‘Golden Ticket’. This will give the person and carer a central point of contact with their own GP Practice for access to all available services which will include seeing the lead nurse and a pharmacist; as well as Voluntary Sector organisations like; Rotherfield St. Martin, Know Dementia, Care for the Carers and Alzheimer’s Society. The trial is to commence October 2015 and it is hoped that after Clinical Commissioning Group, Governing Body approval it will be up and running in twelve to eighteen months. K.G. said that evidence proves that it is perfectly possible to have a good quality of life despite having dementia diagnosed, with the right care and support in place.

An extensive Q&A session followed. There was doubt expressed that things would not change in the timeframe envisaged and the viability of what is being proposed was queried based on current GP capacity and workforce issues.

**Jo Evans, C.E.O. of Rotherfield St. Martin (R.S.M.):**

Jo introduced herself and gave a slide presentation about RSM. They are a membership based organisation. RSM is 10 years old and started with 6 members. They now have 350, a volunteer team of 140 and a number of paid staff. They are involved with Age Concern and High Weald Lewes and Havens Clinical Commissioning Group .The membership is mainly from Rotherfield but they do accept people from outside the immediate area who have their own transport. They offer a wide range of activities and therapies ranging from outside speakers, aromatherapy, toe-nail cutting, exercise and fitness activities, hydrotherapy sessions; outings and theatre trips; computer services; “knitting and nattering”, a befrienders scheme and a volunteer drivers scheme. RSM is becoming a model for the delivery of services in rural communities.

**Rachel Lewis, Chief Officer, ENGage:**

The Charity is Engage South East and TN22 and TN22 Plus are two of the specific programmes the charity is currently providing. TN22 Club is for the over 60s and brings together older people from Hadlow Down and the surrounding towns and villages every fortnight at Hadlow Down Village Hall to enjoy a hot meal and socialise with old and new friends.

The Club is run by volunteers who support those attending the club in a variety of ways including help with food preparation, activities, day trips and outings and driving.

They are open from 11am until 2pm and some afternoons have a film show extending the day until 4pm.  Each session costs £5:00 and a taster day can be arranged with no obligation to commit.

The TN22 Plus club runs on alternate Wednesdays in Hadlow Down and is especially tailored for people with memory loss or dementia.  The Plus club runs from 10.30am – 3.30pm with personalised activities and a high ratio of helper support.  Carers can also attend if they wish to. Cost £45.00 per day plus cost for voluntary driver transport (if needed).

J.G. thanked the speakers for their very interesting talks and said he would like to see something along the lines of R.S.M. and the TN22 Club in Mayfield. He said the committee would arrange a Dementia Friends Session in the near future. Members will be sent information in due course. If any member would like further information about R.S.M. or TN22 please ask J.H. – secretary@woodhillpatientsgroup.org.uk

Some members of the audience commented upon the absence of any representation from Woodhill Surgery. Notification of the meeting had been forwarded to the practice but none of the doctors had responded. JG said he would take this up with the practice at a scheduled meeting with the practice manager on 12th May.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Future Meetings:-

Wednesday, 15th July 2015; 7.30pm Rose and Crown – General Discussion