Minutes of the Great Bentley Patient Participation Group Meeting held on Thursday 17th March 2022 at 18:30 in the Mitchell Room, Great Bentley Village Hall

Chaired by Kathy Chilvers

Present: Charles Brown, Vice Chair/Treasurer

Surgery Guest Dr Nambi + approximately 16Members

1. Welcome:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to this meeting including some new members.

2. Update on Local Issues

There have been no local meetings of Health Group since Covid. Regular meetings where representatives of PPGs have met have only taken place via Zoom which the chairman has not been able to take part.

3. Surgery Guest

Dr Nambi gave the meeting an overview of what is happening at the surgery. They have of course been very busy with Covid and flu jabs. He said that regarding the development of the surgery at the moment there are 3 possible options. All will need looking into and may take time before any would be able to be taken further. The surgery could be extended into the car park that would make 3 new rooms. Another possibility might be to be able to get Bentley House next door but that would have to be connected to the existing surgery due to NHS rules. There is also a possibility of a new surgery in Frating. Funding would need to be applied for and this could take 24 months. At the moment the surgery is getting a large amount of new patients each month including many from Thorpe.

The surgery is continuing to have student doctors as before and it also is having new staff due to the requirement for some more facilities to be local not centralised in hospitals etc. This is facilities like Mental Health Support, Diabetes Care and Physiotherapy.

Dr Nambi then answered questions from the members which included missed booked phone calls from doctors and whether them noting from private number was putting people off and whether it could be changed to show from the surgery. Face to face appointments were discussed and the triage system that is used at the surgery.

4. Annual General Meeting

We have not been able to hold this when it was due for the last 2 years due to Covid. This will now take place at the next meeting in March where a new committee for 2022 will need to be elected. Nominations and Voting Slips will be sent out nearer the time.

7. Any Other Business

A member suggested that members should consider attending the Parish Council Meetings where the needs the surgery due to the increase in housing and potential patients are discussed

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Thursday 19th May at 6.30 pm