

**MINUTES OF THE GREAT BENTLEY PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 20th September 2018
AT 6.30PM IN THE MITCHELL ROOM, GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL**

Chaired by Melvyn Cox
Present: Barry Spake Communications Officer
 Charles Brown, Vice Chair/Treasurer
 Kathy Chilvers, Secretary
 Surgery Guest Dr A.Nambi
 + 12 Members

1. Welcome:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting:

No points were raised and approval for the minutes of 19th July 2018 was given.

3. Hollies Surgery News Dr A.Nambi

Two medical students in the last year of their training are now at the surgery. One is only here for 6 weeks. Both have said that they really like it here. Dr Pontikis is their supervisor. Appointment waiting time has reduced from 6 weeks to 4 weeks with Dr Vine and the students now in place.

The paperwork that has to be completed at the surgery is increasing and there have been a large amount of phone calls for the triage facility. The DNA's have gone down this month and more people are apologising for missing appointments.

Flu jabs are now starting to be given. There are some dedicated flu clinics starting on Saturday. This year the two different types of flu jabs being given. One specifically for the over 65's and another for those aged between 18 and 64. If anyone needs to have a shingles jab this can be given at the same time if requested in advance.

4. NHS News:

i) Reinventing Hospitals – what does the future hold?

The NHS has decided that whereas before a shortage of beds was considered as negative, it can now be seen as a positive. They envisage a "Health and Wellbeing Campus" which means that more people are spending less time in hospital. There is pressure to close some existing A&E departments and expand some others elsewhere. It is claimed by the NHS that no patient hardship should ensue since patients would receive better healthcare when they reach the new destination. The Nuffield chairman says that there is no evidence to support these views, either way.

ii) Your Medicines – Trouble Ahead? What do the members think?

The Chairman spoke about his problems in obtaining some medicines for his wife, with the result of his having to make phone calls to 5 pharmacies and having to visit 8 further pharmacies in order to obtain these medicines in time.

Meanwhile, the NHS is telling pharmacies and where appropriate surgeries to stockpile medication in case of a hard Brexit. If we are not part of the EU 44 new tests will be needed on each medication before it could be prescribed again in the UK.

Dr Nambi said that he is getting information already that some medications are not available and he is unable to change the medication to a different one for the patient if it has been prescribed by a consultant at a hospital.

Councillor Linda McWilliams offered to look further into this from her position on Tendring District Council and Portfolio Holder for Health & Wellbeing.

iii) NHS Combined Performance Report June/July 2018

The figures were bad although not everywhere in the country. Waiting time in hospital for over 4 hours was up by 10% more than the previous year. 41,500 people waited on trolleys for over 4 hours. A & E attendance of 2.18M was the highest since 2010 when this type of count started. Much of the increase in these figures

was blamed on the heatwave.

The 18 week target from referral to treatment has not been met since 2016. Whilst 3,517 patients waited for over 52 weeks for consultant led treatment, the highest since 2012.

iv) It is thought that it is likely that many Expats may return to the country when the UK leaves the EU in order to be able to have medical treatment. The cost is expected to be £500M per annum.

5. Any Other Business

Judy Bishop said that a First Responder would be willing to come and talk at a meeting about their work with this. All members were in favour of this. The Chairman will contact this person and invite them to come to possibly the next meeting.

6. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Thursday 18th October 2018

The meeting closed at 19:15 hours.

Kathy Chilvers

Secretary