

GREAT BENTLEY PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP
MINUTES of the MEETING on THURSDAY 16 MARCH 2017

Present:

Chairman	Melvyn Cox
Vice Chair/Treasurer.	Charles Brown
Communications Officer.	Barry Spake
Secretary.	Diane Miles
Surgery Guest.	Richard Miller
+ 15 Members	

1. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and there were no apologies.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes were agreed and approved.

3. CARE CLOSER TO HOME

Melvyn relayed the contents of a report by The Nuffield Trust. A national survey by the Trust had proved that the best thing that the UK has is the NHS. Compared to various countries the UK spends an average amount on health.

The UK Spent 9% of tax payers money on health in the last year. £5.4 million was spent on the over 75s. By 2036 this will be nearly double.

Austria has the best availability of doctors to residents.

Avoidable deaths are rising since 2012.

There were various comments and opinions taken from the floor.

An observation was made from a member that the Path Lab at Colchester Hospital is now staffed and run by a Private Company.

4. HOLLIES SURGERY NEWS

Richard Miller informed us that an Initiation project had been submitted to NHS England this week re a new surgery.

There will be networking with five other local Practices in NE Essex and finances have been received from CCG.

Positive feedback has been received relating to the phone queuing system.

Two patients have been removed from the surgery list due to failure to keep appointments and non-response to letters.

There were 84 DNAs last month.

5. THE BUDGET

Melvyn relaid comments that were made in the recent Budget.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

£291 million is the budget for Colchester Hospital.

Recruitment at the hospital matches those leaving.

There were many disturbing comments received from several members concerning the poor service in the hospital, - money being wasted and food not being eaten by patients unable to feed themselves.

It s thought that Brexit is a deep concern for foreign NHS employees, many have returned home.

ALAN BISHOP has forwarded some points from the CHUFT (Colchester Hospital University Foundation Trust) board meeting held at the hospital on Tuesday 28th February.

Finance: Total expenditure for the year 2016/17 for CHUFT which includes Clacton and Harwich Hospital = £291 million.

Running deficit= £31.7 million (this is the amount spent over budget)

Amount spent on agency nurses = £29 million

Planned reduction in overall spend for 2017/18 =£17 million

As from 8th March 2017 (incidentally No Smoking Day) a smoking ban was imposed at all the hospital

estate both inside and within hospital grounds for everyone - staff, patients and visitors. No clinician allowed to smoke anywhere in uniform.

It has been recognised that within the NHS some inappropriate procurement has occurred. An example of which was the purchase of disposable items I.e. examination gloves being charged £14 a box locked into a long sometimes many years contract. The true value of such an item being little more than £1.50.

The next CHUFT board meeting to which all members of the public are welcome will be held on Tuesday 25th April at Colchester Hospital in the Post Graduate Medical Centre (to the left of the main hospital building) starting at 9.30am and normally runs for three hours. The public will be invited to ask, address questions to the board normally towards the end of the meeting. However questions can be asked beforehand via the hospital website.

Should there be any changes to these meeting details Alan will let the PPG Chairman know.

8. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

20th April at 6.30pm

There will be a guest speaker from ACE.

Diane Miles (Secretary)
30/3/17