

**MINUTES OF THE GREAT BENTLEY PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> September 2017  
AT 6.30PM IN THE MITCHELL ROOM, GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL**

Chaired by Melvyn Cox

Present:

Charles Brown, Vice Chair/Treasurer  
Kathy Chilvers, Secretary  
Surgery Guest, Dr S O'Reilly  
+ 12 Members

**1. Welcome:**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and our Surgery Guest Dr S O'Reilly

The Chairman informed the meeting about the sad news that Colin Walls had passed away and sent condolences from the group to Marilyn Walls. He was a regular attendee of the PPG.

Marilyn was at the meeting and spoke about Colin's situation and about the help and support she and Colin had received from the surgery and in particular from Dr Pontikis.

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting:**

No points were raised and approval for the minutes 26<sup>th</sup> July 2017 was given.  
Apologies that had been received were read out and noted.

**3. NHS Combined Performance Summary (May):**

Melvyn Cox has now received the report which is over 100 pages long. Main points were that there were failures on many targets such as waiting times and discharge times. The figures are the worst since such measurements were started.

The NHS is looking at electronic tracking on items such as beds and machinery (such as defibrillators) in hospitals. The idea is that by this tracking this would save time and enable more efficient use of these items. It would be a very expensive system and it is thought that the NHS might struggle to finance it. (The system has been very successful in America.)

The NHS budget for 2016/17 was £118 Billion and was overspent by £560 million (2015/16 £200M overspent) and for 2017/18 they need to save 4.3% but this is said to be impossible.

Staff shortages are far worse than they were with staff leaving and new staff from overseas falling in numbers by a large amount (Brexit once again is alleged as the main reason). The members of the meeting discussed this briefly and the disappearance of nursing bursaries.

**4. Hollies Surgery News – S O'Reilly:**

The level of DNA's for appointments last month was 60 which was a decrease from 91 the month before. There is at present no further firm news regarding any new surgery but there may be next month. There are two planning applications that have been submitted that mention a new surgery. There is one that our surgery may be looking at but they have no knowledge of the second one.

There are two trainee GPs at the surgery at present, Dr Rajan and Dr O'Carrol. This does mean that overall there are some more appointment slots available whilst they are there. Dr Reilly outlined process of the training of GPs which takes a minimum of 10 years. These trainees will have already spent two years training in hospital after 6 years at medical school and are now on the last two years of the whole process. They are with the surgery for 6 months.

**5. NHH News items, Open Forum:**

The NHS has set 44 Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP's) for the UK. The Mayor for London has commissioned a report by The Kings Fund and Nuffield Trust, on the 5 London STP's. The findings acknowledge that the financial targets may be unachievable. Their plans include items such as:

- 1,600 to 1,700 more beds needed
- 3.4% efficiency savings needed per annum

- Reconfigure acute services
- Reduce variations in care
- Improve productivity and efficiency

#### **6. Future Speakers:**

The Chairman had been looking into possible speakers for future meetings. There were two possible speakers for the November meeting which is also the AGM. The members discussed these and it was decided to ask the Physiotherapist who would be talking about the management of pain, and that this talk should take place before the business of the AGM.

#### **7. Any Other Business: Two items reported by members.**

1. Alan Bishop said that Colchester hospital is doing slightly better financially this year.
2. John Leggett reported good service from paramedics and the Ambulance Service when he was taken unwell.

#### **8. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Thursday 19th October 2017**

Melvyn thanked Dr O'Reilly for attending and everyone for coming to the meeting.

The meeting closed at 19:25 hours.

#### **Further dates for your diary:**

Thursday 16 November AGM 2017 - 6.30pm  
no meeting December 2017.

#### **Dates for your diary - proposed PPG meeting dates for 2018:**

These are as usual on the third Thursday of each month.

18<sup>th</sup> January 2018  
15<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
15<sup>th</sup> March 2018  
19<sup>th</sup> April 2018  
17<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
21<sup>st</sup> June 2018  
19<sup>th</sup> July 2018  
20<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
18<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
15<sup>th</sup> November 2018  
Kathy Chilvers  
Secretary