

**CARNOUSTIE MEDICAL GROUP
PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP**

**Minute of Meeting held at Parkview Primary Care Centre
on Wednesday 28th September 2022 @ 6.15pm**

Present – Chairperson – Stuart Anderson

Secretary – Ethel O’Donnell

**Committee- Barbara Bromley, Pat Hay, Jeanne Kirk, Yvonne Smith, Margaret McKinlay,
Jim Ray**

Apologies- Wendi Lees, Ken Drysdale, Margaret Boath, Sheena Pritchard

<p>1. Stuart welcomed all to the meeting and gave apologies as above.</p> <p>2. The Minute of the last meeting 24th August 2022 was taken as read and approved by Jeanne Kirk and seconded by Pat Hay.</p> <p>3. Matters arising –</p> <p>i. Information/newsletter – the group was asked if it wanted to proceed with this at this time given uncertainties of determining which services are up and running and the permanency of them. It was agreed to wait until early 2023 and reassess the situation then.</p> <p>ii. Prescriptions -Jill McLean Practice Pharmacist has agreed to come and talk to us on this subject. A date will be arranged.</p> <p>iii. Menopause Group – Dr Roberts has confirmed a menopause group would help in supporting the increase of patients attending for medical advice on this subject. She suggests speaking to Clive Goldstraw for assistance in setting it up. The committee was asked if they would be willing to lead and support such a group. There was reticence in light of uncertainties of exactly what would be involved. Stuart will contact Clive for more information.</p> <p>4. Medical Group Update – In her absence Wendi submitted a written update on CMG activities which was shared with the group as follows:</p> <p>New Staff – A new practice nurse has been appointed and will work Monday, Thursday and Friday. A trainee practice nurse will start full time in mid-November. The 2 relief practice nurses who have been helping for a few months will continue until early 2023.</p> <p>Dr Jenna Simpson, the GP Trainee is to join the practice from 1st October and will work 3 full days. This takes the total to 11 GPs covering 49 sessions, the equivalent of over 6FTE GPs</p> <p>Housing – The GPs have been asked for objections to the new housing estate being built with a total of 14 houses. They have reiterated previous objections due to the continuing concerns of increased capacity to the practice population putting added pressures on an already stretched service.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ethel</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Stuart</p>
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<p>Services in the building – The practice is doing its best to accommodate requests from more and more services asking to use the building, there are concerns the time will come when they have reached full capacity. It appears most services are back to normal despite Covid still being around. To reduce travel for patients NHS Tayside continue to hold Covid and Flu vac clinics in the building at weekends.</p> <p>Food is Free – Over the past few months there has been regular deliveries of fresh fruit and vegetables available in the entrance to PPCC from Food is Free which has been well received. It is hoped this will continue with winter crops.</p> <p>Abuse – Staff are being subjected to unprecedented levels of abuse in recent months. The practice zero tolerance policy is being reiterated and the Practice Manager is taking a firm line by speaking personally to the perpetrators. The PRG have been asked to support the practice with this issue and willing agree to do so.</p> <p>LIG – Wendi Lees is now the chairperson of South Locality Improvement Group and reports that there are a few projects being raised to take forward, reinstating a Befriending service for Carnoustie being one of them.</p> <p>5. Change of meeting times- the conference room can be made available for afternoon meetings. It was agreed that the last Wednesday of the month 2 to 4pm would be a suitable time to meet. This will be put to the PM for confirmation of availability.</p> <p>6. The future of the impact of local housing development on local health care – Margaret asked for clarification of exactly what the groups primary aim is on this matter. Ethel summarised what has been done so far and where we are now. Initially in 2018 we started to address this issue and findings showed CMG met national ratios for all levels of staffing to meet the needs of the practice population at that time.</p> <p>When in 2019 proposals for new and extensive housing developments became known we raised the issues again. The primary aim was to determine what the proposed and planned housing developments were in and around the town to ascertain the impact it would have on local health and social care services. Initially we hoped to get answers on how or if an infrastructure to support health and social care was in place.</p> <p>Due to the Covid pandemic in March 2020 a meeting arranged with Angus Council Planning Department to determine proposed and confirmed planning development in the town had to be postponed.</p> <p>In 2020 the GPs asked for assistance in addressing concerns the expected rise in practice population numbers due to the number of houses being built would have on an already stretched caseload. We have worked with the doctors and Practice Manager throughout the process and from discussions with patient groups in Monifieth, Forfar and Montrose, they all support the task and are working to address similar issues pertinent to them.</p> <p>When restrictions were lifted, we approached Angus Council again to arrange a date for the promised meeting. To date there has been no response to our communications or to that of our local MSP who contacted them on our behalf and was given assurance we would be contacted to meet to discuss concerns.</p>	<p>Ethel</p>
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The next step was to write to the First Minister and Health Secretary of the Scottish Parliament expressing the serious concerns CMG staff, members of the community and the PRG has regarding the pressures already existing due to the effects of the Covid pandemic and the impact the current and planned housing developments would have on overall health care for Carnoustie patients and a severely overstretched medical service. This proved to be futile, the response from a member of the GP Contract and Implementation department of Scot.Gov did not address the issues we raised and referred us to THB and AHSCP which had been indicated in the letter as already been done with little outcome.

Our final attempt to get answers proved to be more productive in getting a quick response from a local councillor. But the outcome was the same, house planning and development will go ahead and other departments need to address health and social care issues.

It has become clear that attempts to find answers at all levels of government and THB has proved to be unsuccessful.

The group took the decision that at this time we have exhausted all areas in our attempt to resolve the ongoing and increasing deep concerns being felt throughout the nation with regard to pressures on GP practices and delivering health care. We will keep an open mind and should it be appropriate we have a record of all communication and work done so far and the subject can be opened again if necessary.

7. NESS – North East Sensory Services. – some group members attended a talk from a representative of NESS and were concerned that this valuable service for people with hearing impairment and sight loss appears to be little known. On inspection there is no promotion of this service in the publication racks or notice boards within PPCC. Posters have been obtained and will be given to the practice for display.

8. AOCB - with no items for further discussion being raised the meeting closed at 7.35pm

Date & Venue of next meeting – Wednesday 26th October 2022 at 2pm in the Conference room, PPCC – **NB change of time and venue.**

Ethel O'Donnell

Ethel O'Donnell

Minute Secretary

Date 29th September 2022

Minute approved..... Date.....

Seconded..... Date.....