**Notes from Patient Group Meeting 23rd March 2022 (Microsoft Teams Remote meeting)**

Present: Sylvia Pledger, Gill Sower, David Beechey, Matthew Bird, Val Eastup, Anne Barclay, Caroline Kilcoyne, Richard Shaw

Apologies: Mary Hancox

Notes from previous meeting had been sent out to members prior to the meeting.

Staff Changes:

A new salaried GP has been appointed, Dr Margaret Mascarenhas who will be working 4 sessions per week over 2 days per week.

We now have the following clinicians employed by the practice:

6 GP partners

2 ST3 Registrars

2 Salaried GP

4 Practice Nurses

2 Healthcare Assistants

1 Nurse Associate

In addition, we have PCN (Primary Care Network) staff members working in the practice:

Clinical Pharmacist – 2 days per week

Physicians Associate – 2 days per week

Application to extend the practice premises:

Planning permission has been granted for 3 additional clinical rooms and to improve the layout of the building, to include a new meeting room.

The practice is trying to facilitate the next step and is working with the CCG.

Treasurer:

Anne Barclay has taken over the role of Treasurer for the group, no bank statements have been received since 2018. Sylvia will contact the bank to request copies. 1 cheque was written in 2019.

Covid Update:

Boosters have commenced for patients aged 75 and over as well as the clinically vulnerable aged under 75. Patients can book into clinics at the surgery or book through 119 to attend a local hub.

The practice continues to attempt to strike a balance between safety, face to face, video calls and telephone consultations. The practice is struggling to release more in advance appointments due to staff absences, continuing to offer routine appointments alongside working with Covid. Covid is still very much out there.

The practice feels more normal

Bereavement Group:

Going very well and currently has 7 members who meet monthly and friendships are being formed.

Future Fit:

Is now appearing again in the local press, it has been going on for at least 9 years. It is hardly mentioned at CCG meetings. CCG will cease to exist from the end of June and will be replaced with ICS (Integrated Care Systems). Gill Sower reported there had been some improvements within SaTH, SaTH has inadequate ratings in some departments, budgets are being cut and not only in health.

Patient representation within PCN:

Sylvia asked whether there were any plans for this to happen. Practice members are not aware of any or whether it is in the constitution.

Appointment booking:

Patients struggling with not being able to book in advance, it is positive they are now aware of their position in the telephone queue. Worked out the best time to call is lunchtime.

21 year anniversary of Albrighton Patient Group

It is 21 years in May since the inception of the patient group. The group would like to acknowledge this in some way and publicise this.

Patient Group Members:

Sylvia will contact people who do not attend to ask them to contact her if they wish to remain involved

**Next Meeting: 11th May 2022**