**Alton Patient Participation Group**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 13th February 2024**

**at 10.00 am**

**Present:** **Dorothy Clohesy (Chair), Heather Hall (Practice Manager), Angie Hurst, Tony Loynes, Yvonne Somerville and Elaine Plant (Secretary)**

**1. Apologies**: Carol & David Edwards, Lynn Shooter

**2. Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 9th January – Approved**.

**3. Matters Arising:**

**Health & Wellbeing Coach Visit**

**HH** reported that Kerri had been offered the services of St Peter’s Church as a venue for the Fun & Fitness Group.

The volunteers who run the Coffee Morning at the Surgery have also volunteered their services at the Church Group. Members were very pleased to hear this news.

**Community Bus Project:**

**TL** confirmed that he was now fully set up and prepared to drive the Mini Bus. He would liaise with Kerri to take this project forward. Everyone congratulated Tony on his swift actions in getting this project going and gave thanks also to Kerri and the Coffee Morning volunteers.

**Healthwatch Report:**

After discussion, members concluded that the report does not come up with any solutions for rural practices and patients.

A lengthy discussion took place on NHS staff now attached to GP Surgeries in general including Clinical and Social Subscribers, Clinical Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians, Nursing Associates, Physicians Associates. Health & Wellbeing Coaches. Members thought that the roles and terminology used for the attached staff was very confusing for patients and PPG.

**Phone System –** Hopefully by end of the week. The two systems will run side by side until up and running fully. When more information available **AH** will post on Facebook.

**4. Reports:**

**HH** advised that Interviews for the Physicians’ Associate would take place on Friday 16th February.

When in post, the Physicians Associate will work full time and lighten the work load of GP’s and Nurses.

**YS** reported on a problem with her Pharmacy prescription. **HH** explained the reason for this which **YS** accepted. Discussed.

**TL – Defibrillator training.**  TL now identified the person who did the training for this was Ange Becker but she did not have access to a mannequin for this purpose. Various suggestions were made which Tony would follow up.

**DC** announced that she was stepping down as Chair of the PPG after 10 years in the post. She felt that it was time for ‘new blood’ to take over and wanted to step down in May. Everyone was appreciative of Dorothy’s considerable knowledge and experience of working for the NHS which she has brought to the PPG and they were sorry to hear the news. However, Dorothy would continue to attend the PPG meetings and support the next person in post. A discussion took place as to how we could attract new members. It was suggested that because we are fortunate to have a very good surgery it was perhaps not necessary for the PPG to meet every month. As we did not have all members present, it would be discussed at the next meeting.

**5. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 10 am**