**Abbey Medical Centre Patient Participation Group**

**Minutes November 21, 2013**

**Present:** Janet Clarke, Irene Goode, Gerry Coppell, Joy Stevenson, Dr Nicholas Browne, Shirley Lynch, Sue McNab and Eileen Grant.

**Apologies for absence:** Alex Smith, Linda Hart

**Position of chairman:** Due to health issues, Chairman David Cameron has had to step down and Gerry Coppell agreed to stand in as chairman temporarily. Shirley said it was sad that the committee had lost so many members.

Janet has stepped in as our representative to the Nottingham West Patient Reference Group, but feels that matters being discussed are going over her head at the moment. Shirley said the main aim was for the consortium to liaise with PPG groups and to feed back to PPG groups what they are doing. It is hoped that another member of the group will step in to help Janet as a second representative.

**Minutes of the last meeting:** Approved. It was reported that the results of the dignity and respect survey are now on the surgery website.

**Movember:** It was reported that plans were in hand for the coffee morning on November 29 and the male doctors had all grown a moustache. Derek Daykin's son Andrew had called in to say that £650 was raised at Derek's funeral and this was matched by Lloyd's bank where his wife works with another £500. Derek, our late vice-chairman, had been willing to shave off the beard and moustache he had had since 1967 in aid of Movember. The committee was touched to hear about the efforts in his memory.

**Nottingham West Consortium:** Dr Browne said the consortium had underspent its budget this year, but in the next financial year a saving of £1m was needed and things would be tighter. Consortiums which overspent this year had been forced to cut services and he hoped that situation would not happen in Nottingham West. The Abbey surgery is better than other practices in terms of misuse of Accident and Emergency and Dr Browne said the practice was in many ways, such as size, referral to specialists and A and E rates, regarded as average by the consortium. All 12 practices in Nottingham West were, he said, doing pretty much the same sort of job but there was no more money coming for a few years to come. At the moment it did not seem as if cuts would come but things could change.

Gerry asked if the government's idea of longer surgery hours would come in. Dr Browne said it might happen in some form, such as maybe seeing 'a' GP not necessarily your own GP. He said “The devil's in the detail and we don't know what that is.”

Shirley said people have greater expectations these days. Sue said people hanker after a time gone by when doctors lived on the premises and did their own night calls but that is unrealistic in this day and age.

Dr Browne said the consortium was pushing for patients to see a GP within three days. Abbey already meets that criterion but some practices struggle. Shirley said the Abbey struggles when there is a doctor off sick.

**Any other business:** Shirley announced she will be retiring at the end of March after nearly 19 years in post. Gerry said we would be sorry to lose her and Sue said Shirley had been very approachable and made it easy for her to help.

Disabled Go had been into the surgery and gave quite good feedback. The surgery is trying to make the reception desk more open to wheelchair access and has created a lower access point. Practice noticeboards were considered pleasing to the eye and the practice was seen to be trying to accommodate people with disabilities. There is a link to Disabled Go on the practice website.

**Date of the next two meetings:**

Wednesday, January 22, 6.30pm.

Thursday, March 20, 1pm.

**Abbey Medical Centre Patient Participation Group Agenda for**

**January 22, 2014**

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Minutes of the last meeting**
3. **Matters arising**
4. **Report on Patient Reference group meetings**
5. **Movember results**
6. **Any other business**
7. **Date of next meeting**