**BOTTISHAM MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENTS’ GROUP**

**AGM 25 May 2021**

**Held virtually via Zoom.**

**Present virtually:** Steve Gilson (Chair and Host),Dr Keith, Christopher Welton (treasurer), Jenny Langdon (secretary), Penny Irwin, Janet Aves, Rowena Pilsworth (Practice Business Partner, Chloe Baker and Ali McCarthy (Social Prescribers), Amanda Stearn (Dispensary Manager) and 6 other members.

1. **Apologies:** Carolin
2. **Chairman’s Report:** Steve welcomed Dr Keith and all those attending. He presented the chairman’s report (copy attached).
3. **Update from Rowena Pilsworth:** Rowena, on behalf of the Practice said it had been a challenging year. She wished to extend huge thanks to patients for their support and to the amazing volunteers who provided such help over this period. The Practice is discussing the easing out into a new normal, starting with monitoring of those with chronic diseases face to face. However, they have been overworked with unprecedented demand since Easter, initially receiving up to 700 phone calls one day, though this has since lessened. Dr Simon Leveritt has been appointed as GP and Amanda Stearn has been appointed dispensary manager. Alex Tarrant, physiotherapist, will be at the Practice on Wednesdays and available remotely on Mondays and patients may be referred directly to him. The services of a pharmacist to review medication will also be coming. Dr Higham, who had been at the Practice for about 20 years retired in February although he has been helping with vaccinations and will also do some work at the Practice.
4. **Presentation by Chloe Baker:** Chloe started by quoting the NHS Chief Executive that there is “not a pill for every ill” and then presented slides showing her role. These will be available on the surgery website. Ali pointed out that if advice had not proved helpful then the patient could return for review.
5. **Presentation by Dr Keith on Mental Health: Stress, Burnout and Depression. When how and where to seek help.** This was a very interesting talk and relevant as in all her career she said she had never known such an epidemic of mental health problems. She has found that dementia sufferers had deteriorated and children from the age of 3 were presenting with mental health issues. Locally we have the advantage of NHS 111 option 2 which goes straight to a mental health team for their help. For patients who are threatening and pose a real danger to themselves or others then the advice is to phone 999 for the police. The slides from her talk will being going onto the surgery website.
6. **Minutes of AGM 2019:** These had been agreed and accepted by the committee.
7. **Treasurer’s Report:** Christopher gave a very short report giving the current balance as £673.09. The main purchase has been the Doppler machine. Dr Keith was able to illustrate how useful this has been with a case of an elderly lady with leg ulcers in identifying she was found to be in need of urgent surgery to save her leg. He then thanked the accounts examiner John Overton and was pleased to say that Mr Overton was prepared to continue in this role.
8. **Election of Office Holders:** Penny stood down as vice chair. As the existing holders of the other positions were prepared to continue and there were no other nominations or objections, no further changes were made.
9. **Committee Members:** No volunteers forthcoming.
10. **Ideas for Year Ahead:** Rowena was looking into the possibility of setting up a community garden. Other plans will be made once the way forward becomes clearer.
11. **A.O.B:** Steve pointed out that there were now 600 patients registered for prescription delivery. To avoid patients being out at delivery time, SMS messages are being planned, which should save calls and visits to the surgery.
12. **Next Meeting:** Via Zoom 2pm Wednesday 21 July 2021 All patients eligible to join in and need to contact [steve.gilson@btinternet.com](mailto:steve.gilson@btinternet.com) for joining details.