

# Minutes of the Charter Medical Centre Patient Group AGM

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 6.30pm at the Cornerstone Community Centre

## 1. Introduction and Apologies

*Present:* Clare Tikly (Chair), Maureen Ramsden, Justin Burke, Anne Giebler, Nora Mzaoui, Jackie Parker, David Watkins, Tony Jaffe, Margaret Smith, Paul O'Connell (minutes).

*Apologies:* Maureen Smallldridge, Helen Phillips, Molly Montgomery, Joan Johnson, Warwick Winston, Gloria Parks, Barbara Shields.

Clare introduced the meeting and made note that the Charter Medical Centre Patient Group represented members of both the Patient Participation Group (PPG) and the Patient Reference Group (PRG). It was noted that the PPG now comprised of 89 members and the PRG >700 members.

## 2. Minutes of first AGM

Approved

## 3. Annual Reports from the Chair and the Treasurer

Clare distributed copies of the Chairs annual report and Maureen Ramsden, standing in for Warwick Winston, presented the Treasurers report.

## 4. Elections

Committee members for 2013-14 were announced as Justin Burke, Anne Giebler, Chris Hammond, Nora Mzaoui, Jackie Parker, Helen Phillips, Maureen Ramsden, Maureen Smallldridge, Clare Tikly and David Watkins. Warwick Winston would remain as an honorary member.

## 5. Refreshments

## 6. Speakers

*David Watkins: "Monitoring and Supporting Healthcare in Brighton and Hove"*

David discussed how L.I.N.k (Local Involvement Network) had been running for 5 years but was due to end on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 and be replaced by Healthwatch who will continue to monitor and support healthcare in Brighton. Healthwatch will have the same responsibilities as L.I.N.k but be co-ordinated by the Community Voluntary Sector Forum (CVSF). Healthwatch aims to be a pro-active organisation where L.I.N.k was reactive. The L.I.N.k committee will stay on to help with the transition to Healthwatch and David urged Charter PG members to

sign up to Healthwatch as members who can be canvassed on local health issues.

*Darren Currell (BHCC): "Walking for Health"*

As one of the aims of the PG is health promotion, Darren Currell spoke about Healthwalks, a Brighton initiative celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. The organisation runs 11 walks every week which are led by trained volunteers and there are plans for a series of additional themed walks this coming year. All walks are free and open to everybody and it was noted that walking as a form of exercise is particularly beneficial for people with cancer, heart problems and diabetes. Clare had recently undertaken leader training with Healthwalks and is planning on starting up a Charter/St Annes Wells Gardens walk in the near future.

#### **7. PG Quarterly Meetings in 2013-14**

Meetings will be held in June, September, December and March and Clare will contact members with dates in due course.

#### **8. A.O.B**

Margaret Smith raised the issue of cutbacks to gluten-free prescriptions. David suggested writing to L.I.N.k about this issue who would then pass it on to Healthwatch as a current community health concern.

POC, 5.3.13