



Minutes of the PPG AGM held on Monday 6th February 2023 at
7.15 pm at Robertsbridge Village Hall

	Item		ACTION
1	Attendees	Steve MacDonald (Chair PPG) Alison Sarson (Secretary PPG) Dr Andrew Sewell (Practice GP) Dr Lorna Davey (Practice GP) Emma Chapman (Practice) Libby Looseley (Practice) Richard Williams (Starnes) Alex Woodford (Starnes) Martine Blaser-Smart (PPG) John Shultz (PPG) Jenny Daniels (PPG) Sue Peters (PPG) Sally Slyfield (PPG) Members of the Public	
2	Apologies	Keith McPherson Elodie Lanworn Tanja Conway-Grim Dianne Mower	
3	Welcome	<p>The Chair welcomed the audience to the PPG AGM and explained that the AGM would comprise of a presentation from Richard Williams from Starnes in Tunbridge Wells on the progress of the new Health Centre in Robertsbridge. Following this presentation there would be a break when members of the public who attended just for the presentation could leave. The meeting would then continue with the PPG AGM.</p> <p>The Chair also invited the audience to join the PPG as virtual or attending members and forms were available for this purpose.</p>	Members List to be updated.
4	Presentation from Richard Williams of Starnes	Richard Williams handed out several large plans of the proposed new Health Centre for Robertsbridge. He explained that the plans had now been sent to Rother District Council for planning permission. The planning	

	(Property Developers)	<p>decision is expected in June or July this year. The plans show a building with flexible options for use.</p> <p>Richard Williams explained that the Health Centre was part of a larger development with some light industrial buildings and some 16 houses of varying sizes which will be sold as private housing.</p> <p>The plans show that a new road will be constructed from Station Road to the new building and 28 parking places will be available.</p> <p>The timetable for the work depends on when planning is approved but if this is June/July the contractors could start in Sept/Oct, initially constructing the road which will take 4 – 5 months then the construction of the surgery will take approximately 11 months.</p> <p>Questions from the audience were invited. These included the issue of flooding and it was confirmed that flooding had been considered and the technical proposal had already been approved.. Disappointment was expressed that there would be no affordable housing as part of the project and it was confirmed that the sale of private housing supported the cost of the health centre. It was pointed out that any further questions relating to strategic planning issues should be directed to the Parish Council Planning Committee. There was then a break to allow those who did not want to stay for the PPG meeting to leave.</p>	
5	PPG AGM	<p>Steve MacDonald (Chair) and Alison Sarson (Secretary) had both indicated their wish to step down from their roles having fulfilled these roles over several years. Steve and Ali were thanked for their hard work and commitment to the PPG and particularly their work in organising the Flu clinics for the village and the Covid Hot Hub. Both Steve and Ali will remain members of the PPG so their skills are not lost to the group.</p> <p>Election of new officers to the PPG took place:</p> <p>Martine Blaser-Smart was elected Chair. Proposed by Jenny Daniels Seconded by Alison Sarson</p> <p>John Schultz was elected Vice-Chair Proposed by Sue Peters Seconded by Sally Slyfield</p> <p>Jenny Daniels was elected as Secretary Proposed by Steve MacDonald</p>	

		<p>Seconded by Alison Sarson</p> <p>The PPG welcomed two new members who attended Amanda Baldock-Apps and Sarah Beighton</p>	
6	Practice updates	<p>Libby introduced the new Practice Manager Emma Chapman and explained that Emma and Libby will be working closely together, Libby focussing on Finances and the progress of the new building and Emma focussing on all other areas.</p> <p>Libby explained that the practice had had a very busy year and that the use of the E-Hub is being promoted to help to manage the heavy workload. However it was emphasised that other routes of contacting the surgery remain in place and telephones and receptionists remain operational particularly for those patients who do not use computers and smart phones.</p> <p>Dr Sewell explained that certain conditions lend themselves to electronic communication and others to telephone calls. However Dr Sewell emphasised that the surgery continues to do face-to-face appointments and these have not been reduced in Robertsbridge and Battle.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the NHS App is not yet fully operational in terms of patients seeing their own records and others seeing records on a need-to-know basis. This is due to safety concerns by NHS England.</p> <p>Libby reported that the reception team is short staffed by one full-time equivalent person and that they continue to seek a suitable applicant for this post.</p> <p>Libby shared that the surgery website is to be refreshed shortly.</p> <p>Dr Sewell confirmed that the Practice have to adhere to strict geographical boundaries for patients and where patients move out of the boundary, they will be automatically de-registered from the practice.</p>	
7	Finance	None	
8	AOB	None	
9	Date of the next meeting	Monday 3 rd April 2023 at Battle Health Centre 7pm. (Meetings alternate between Battle and Robertsbridge)	