

## **MINUTES**

## COMMITTEE MEETING Friday 2 May 2025, 11:30 Rectory Meadow Surgery

## Attendees:

George Allison	(GA)	Lynda Hampson	(LH)
Gordon Barrett	(GB)	Ann Lawrence	(AL)
Tony Burckhardt	(TB)	Debbie Ratu	(DR)
Graham Cook	(GC)	Helen Woods	(HW)
Liz Davidson	(LD)	Mike Wort	(MW) (virtual)

	Item	Action
1.	Apologies for absence Apologies were received from Mike Hender, Peter McLoughlin and Ron Newall.	
2.	Minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2025 The minutes were ratified and accepted by Helen Woods, seconded by Tony Burckhardt.	
3.	<ul> <li>Chairman's report</li> <li>The recent evening presentation on Dementia was extremely well attended and warmly received by all present.</li> <li>Topic required for next presentation. ALL to contribute suggestions, please.</li> </ul>	ALL
	<ul> <li>Primary Care Network (PCN)</li> <li>Hughenden Valley Surgery now have a Patients Group.</li> <li>RMPG has invited other Patients Groups from within the PCN catchment to our patient presentations, so provision of a larger venue for future General Meetings is paramount.</li> <li>Mark Dunscombe has taken over from Chris Purves as PCN Chair. Mark is Chair of Amersham Surgery Patients Group.</li> <li>Heartfelt thanks to Chris Purves as she steps down from the RMPG Committee. Chris has put in a huge amount of work over the years as Chair which is shown in the vibrant forum which stands today to ensure patient views are integrated into the planning process.</li> </ul>	

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3.	<ul> <li>Chairman's report (continued)</li> <li>Annual review</li> <li>Chris has been instrumental in managing the Annual Review.</li> <li>The PCN has requested greater input from RMPG, with greater discussion ongoing regarding the function and formatting of the Annual Report. The cost of this report has been covered historically by an RMPG Committee member, however, Amersham Surgery have agreed to cover its cost moving forward in return for sharing of information.</li> <li>A multi-layer questionnaire for patients within the PCN catchment has been suggested, with generic questions for all patients and others designed by each surgery for targeted results. Committee members required to review/agree the general questions and formulate RMPG questions.</li> <li>Distribution</li> <li>Chris and GB have strategically managed the integrity of our distribution list. With the membership's growth, it has become necessary to consider moving to a paid Internet service provider to support this database. Free services recommended by Committee members are under review, as well as paid services. Resolution will be sought at the AGM.</li> <li>Mark Dunscombe and MH are working hard behind the scenes on this move towards a streamlined service.</li> <li>A prospective new volunteer is currently in talks to join the Committee. This lady is an ex-Magistrate with years of</li> </ul>	ALL
	<ul> <li>Annual General Meeting (AGM)</li> <li>I would like to propose postponing the AGM from this month to August 2025. With many changes still in the planning stage and proposals yet to be defined, a delay to August will allow sufficient time to bring final proposals to the AGM for immediate approval.</li> <li>AGM postponed to Friday 29 August 2025, to be held as part of the General Meeting.</li> <li>The May General Meeting will proceed as diarised.</li> <li>A formal agenda for the AGM will be circulated to the Committee for review and comment.</li> </ul>	ALL to note
4.	Practice Manager update  No staff changes to report.  Covid vaccinations for care home residents and housebound patients only to commence w/c. 05/05/25.	

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4.	GB enquired whether Klinik is being replaced. Klinik is one of the systems being considered by the Government in order to bring in a single platform UK-wide. The surgery currently chooses to pay £4,000 p/a for Klinik as its preferred system due to its user-friendly setup. Should the Government choose a different system, the surgery may well keep Klinik and choose to continue to pay for it as the GP system of choice. 83% of patients are using Klinik without issue. 80% of patients use the NHS app for test results, etc. HW to circulate MW Chairman's report to Committee with the Minutes of this meeting.	
5.	<ul> <li>Attendance at the last event on Dementia was 40.</li> <li>As per MW report, Committee to consider subject for next event. Health eating/healthy gut biome a popular choice.</li> <li>GA reported a central list of prospective speakers is required along with their availability, to enable speakers to be confirmed early. Committee to consider their own connections and relay to HW so a central list can be populated. MW noted there are many different groups within the community who could potential speak. Networking is required to provide us with these people's profiles.</li> <li>GA enquired whether professional bodies could be approached. HW noted as an example, the Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT) have regional groups who can be approached to speak. GA noted prospective speakers need to be aware this work would be pro bono. MW gave the example of a peer support group his wife has been asked to set up following her group cardiac after-care.</li> </ul>	ALL
6.	<ul> <li>Membership</li> <li>MW reported all new patients have to opt out of being a member of the RMPG upon joining, which is a significant step forward.</li> <li>The NHS has stated all surgeries have to have a patients' group, with the same "opt out" policy for membership.</li> <li>GB and CP's input has made a positive impact on the smooth running of the surgery. Rectory Meadow Surgery is one of the best performing practices in Buckinghamshire.</li> <li>GB reported DdS receives an update on changes to membership and in turn updates the membership list. Current membership stands at 1,098.</li> </ul>	

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6.	<ul> <li>MW reported he has attended some patient support sessions run by the surgery and with engagement, patients do sign up for the RMPG.</li> <li>GA queried whether the RMPG is covered by data protection. MW confirmed this is the reason a smoother system of patient communication is being investigated because we do not wish to affect the data protection coverage held currently or allow commercial firms to obtain our patient data. The use of an external distribution service as used by the Amersham Surgery would resolve the issue of DdS spending hours over several days sending out communications.</li> </ul>	
7.	Mid-Chiltern PCN Update  We have been given further commitment from the PCN and with Hughenden Valley Surgery coming on stream, we will also see the social prescribing element integrated later this month.	
8.	<ul> <li>Any other business</li> <li>CP has formally stepped down from both the RMPG and the PCN.</li> <li>Mark Dunscombe, Chair of Amersham Surgery Patients Group has taken over PCN representation from CP.</li> <li>GA queried who can attend PCN meetings? MW confirmed it is the Chair of each Committee of each of the 7 practices.</li> <li>GC reported the new Surgery newsletter has just been circulated.</li> <li>HW queried whether any Committee members would like to nominate themselves to be RMPG contributor for our slot in the Surgery newsletter. No responses were received.</li> <li>MW reported a new loop band is being initiated on the Surgery website to showcase current events.</li> <li>MW noted it is important to weight up input versus output with communication to members. MW suggested the RMPG input items of interest into the Surgery newsletter and if deemed important enough, we can then communicate under separate cover to the membership.</li> <li>MW raised the issue of whether it is pertinent to serve refreshments at our events. Refreshments for the speakers' table was deemed essential. The logistics of providing wider refreshments for attendees needs further thought.</li> <li>GB noted the agenda for the AGM needs to be circulated to</li> </ul>	

## Forthcoming meetings:

RMPG Committee Meeting Friday 1 August 2025 @ 11:30 – Rectory Meadow Surgery

RMPG General Meeting & AGM Friday 29 August 2025 @ 14:00 – Barn Meadow Community Hall