**Portland Patient Participation Group**

Minutes of Meeting Wednesday June 6th 2018

Present: Chris Blunt, Frank Brookhouse, Jack Charlesworth, Sue Cousins, Jean Halford, Gail Jukes, Dawn Smart

Apologies for absence: Melinda Green, Jeanette Harvey, Hilary Mulholland

1. Minutes of last meeting: agreed as an accurate record
2. Manor Farm Community Association Presentation – Carol Wilson (Manager of Silver Scheme and Making connections.

The Silver Scheme started in 2014 as a one year pilot; more funding was provided by the National Lottery for a further 3 years and there is currently a bid to secure funding for 5 years. Aimed at people aged 55 years + who are resident in Walsall. Not means tested, charges are the same for everyone. Luncheon Club at Rushall Community Centre on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays – 2 course lunch £3.75. Attended by 20 – 30 people, have capacity for up to 35. Transport available for this and medical appointments for a small charge. Other activities also provided at same venue. Home services such as cleaning £10 per hour, currently employ 5 cleaners. Gardening£12 per hour if using residents tools, £15 if using Manor Farm equipment. Maintenance only, will refer elsewhere if more extensive needs identified. Additional gardener just appointed. Home maintenance £20 per hour – small tasks such as changing light bulbs, not plumbing or electrical work. All Manor Farm staff are DBS checked.

Befriending service – mostly aimed at people living alone with no family or friends. 12 volunteers will visit weekly or fortnightly as needed. No charge. Aim to encourage people to go to Lunch Club. Also a telephone befriending service. There are 53 active volunteers at present, each offering a varying number of hours.

Fun club for adults with additional needs.

Gents Club at the Watermill (Goscote) in a room decorated like an old pub; originated from the Lunch Club. £5 for food and drink and £3 for transport. There is also an allotment on site and a volunteer who runs it.

Making Connections for people aged over 60, aimed at combating loneliness and referring to other activities/services. 2 co-ordinators will carry out a home visit to assess need. No charge; charges may arise from services people are signposted to. 2 people visited in this way have now become volunteers. The access to this service is via the fire service from their staying well service. This service checks home safety, smoke detectors etc but also refer on to schemes such as Making Connections.

The group were impressed by the range of services available and agreed this should be promoted to patients when opportunities arise. Chris Blunt planned to arrange a time for the information to be disseminated to clinical staff.

1. Confidentiality & GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation): due to limited time this was not discussed. To be deferred until the next meeting.
2. Health Promotion Evening – Women’s Health, now to be arranged for a date after the summer.
3. New Check-in Screen: provided by Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). This has been mounted on the wall just past the reception desk (this has helped to increase confidentiality for patients speaking to reception staff. The system has capacity to ask several additional questions from patients; currently it is set to ask 2 questions including confirmation of telephone number.
4. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 5th September.