**Eagle House PPG Meeting 18 July 2018**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**  Jackie Brown, Caroline Craddock, Annette Davies, Val Harbour, Ann Horbury, John Imber, Sue Inman, Jenny Thompson, Nikki Williams, Dr. Jane Davies

**Apologies:** Mary Falla, Hazel Haigh, Keith Harrison, Val Imber, Rosemarie Spalding

1. In Val Imber’s absence, Annette Davies kindly agreed to take the Chair.
2. **Minutes of 6th June Meeting.** With two corrections to the lists of members present and absent, the minutes were accepted.
3. **Surgery Merger Concerns.** Dr. Jane Davies outlined the history of the Practice. With the shortage of young doctors wishing to become GPs, it had become necessary to change many aspects of the way the Practice operates: now there were 4 or 5 Nurses in attendance each day; on-call services had been contracted to the Ambulance Service; there was more use of 111 telephone and on-line services. The CCG had made it clear that they did not want a large number of small practices. Negotiations had been going on between Whitecliff and Eagle House for some months, and had culminated in a decision to merge. The combined surgeries would have some 25,000 patients. The details for the merger had yet to be finalised, but the date would probably be around October 2019. It was likely that they would operate in the present buildings for some two to five years.

It appeared that rather than being consulted, the patients were faced with a *fait accompli*. Some felt that some of the best features of the Practice were about to be lost, but this would not really become clear until further information was available.

**Other Surgery news.** A new reception Team Leader had been appointed – Gaynor. A new Nurse from Wales would be starting next month. There were two new reception staff. Choice of a new telephone system would be delayed because it would have to serve the needs of both Surgeries. Asked whether there was a problem in getting locums, Nikki responded that there was, but one recent new locum had proved very satisfactory. Patients who failed to attend appointments (DNAs) were still a problem.

1. **PPG Chairs meeting.** The Notes say that a FAQ document had been prepared to assist the Sherborne practice merger. It was asked if Keith could obtain a copy for Blandford. **Action KH.**
2. **Community Expo/Living Well Active.** Would be held at the Corn Exchange on Saturday 15th September, from 10am to 1 pm. Annette considered it would be difficult for PPGs to participate because they might be faced with awkward questions about the merger. Some members agreed. In addition to the organisations suggested by Keith the following might be invited to participate: Singing for the Brain, Sewing Group, Bus to Go, Tricuro, Age Concern, Fire Service (Home Safety Checks), Carers Group, Befriending Group. John Imber was asked to contact Blandford Town Council with these suggestions. **Action JI.**
3. There being no other business, it was agreed that the next meeting of the Group would be on **Wednesday 22 August at 5pm.**