

Minutes of the Meeting of Castle Medical Group PPG, held on Tuesday 25th June 2024 at CMG

In attendance: Clive Caulfield; Peter Clement; Martin Cooper; Tony Green; Paddy Miles; Bhiku Mistry; Renee Robinson; Lesley Salter; Karen Wesson

1 Apologies for absence

Pulendran Arasaradnam; Paul Boddington; Brenda Hall; Hugh Hall; Carol Land; Hilary Mercer; Jennie Caukwell.

2 Presentation - Katie Johnson, Director of Ashby CAP Services (Christians Against Poverty)

Katie Johnson made the following points:

- The Ashby branch has been in existence since 2009
- The organisation as a whole was established by John Kirkby
- all work is based around churches
- the aim is to help people get out of poverty
- also to teach them how to stay out of poverty
- trained advisers act as befrienders to each individual
- they advise, sort plans, liaise with debtors etc
- anyone can access the services
- 90% of people go insolvent because their debts are so large
- over 50% do not have enough income to even pay essential bills
- liaison with CAB & social prescribers
- the meetings at the church provide companionship; tea & coffee; IT services
- Pathways cafe good to visit
- average x2 new clients/month - restricted by available support
- all are patients at CMG - physical and mental problems made worse by debt

MC thanked Katie for her work and the presentation

3 Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 30th April 2024

The minutes were accepted as a true record. Proposed KW, Seconded by PM.

4 Matters Arising

3(i) TG reported that there were not enough volunteers to consider starting up a Group currently.

5 It had been decided not to take part in the event on the Bath grounds at the end of July because of cost.

TG noted that other fundraising options needed to be pursued with CMG.

AB noted that he might be able to help with some activities - agreed to meet soon with TG

AB & TG

5 Report back on visit to Bright Hope House

KW noted that the visit had been an extremely good one. The venture had been a joint one between the NWLDC (providing the land) and Bloors (donated the building, the equipment and a year's maintenance).

People supported had a period of 12 weeks - the waiting list was very long. Carers were also allowed to go.
KW and the other members who had visited, recommended other members to visit.
The address and details are:

Bright Hope House
Talbot Lane
Swannington
Leicestershire
LE67 8QT
Tel: 01530 648553
Email: admin@brighthope-nwl.org.uk

Many thanks to Hilary Mercer who had arranged the visit.

TG suggested the next visit could be to Pathways - this was agreed.

6 Report from the Chair

MC reported the following:

- 1 He had been unable to attend the Locality PPG Group meeting held recently.
- 2 MC was attending a Rotary meeting on 11th July.
- 3 He had attended a volunteers meeting held at Ivanhoe School - an extremely successful event
- 4 He was due to attend a U3A meeting that afternoon and to give a presentation on the PPG.

7 Any Other Business

None

8 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 13th August 2024, at Ascebi House, commencing at 11.00am.