**Minutes**

**Appletree PPG Meeting 75**

**21st July 2021**

**5.30 – 6.10pm via zoom**

**Attendees: George Newton (Chair), John Rowlands (Vice Chair), Wendy Palmer, Sue Morris.**

**From Appletree: Lianne Burke (Practice Manager), Dr Samantha Thomson (Partner)**

1. **Opening and welcome**: GN welcomed everyone to our 3rd zoom meeting and thanked everybody for attending**.**
2. **Present and apologies**: No apologies required due to zoom format
3. **Matters arising:**

**Standing Items:**

1. Minutes of previous meeting (27th January 21): Amended as representative from Appletree was Dr Annie Jennison not Dr Helen Fenwick as stated on the minutes. Approved by JR
2. Action Plan

* PPG Patient Survey (not applicable at moment). Recommence Post Covid
* PPG Notice Board (not applicable)

6. Other patient representative bodies (as appropriate)

* Good Neighbourhood project - (not applicable).

The GNP has been helping villagers during the lockdown. John Rowlands to approach the GNP to see if they want a representative to attend / report to the PPG.

7. Appletree update – latest news from the Practice incl.

* Belper primary care network (PCN)
  + Belper is the top performing PCN Covid Vaccine hub in Derbyshire and has received a letter from Matt Hancock, thanking them for all their efforts.
  + It is highly likely that this year's flu vaccine with be delivered in conjunction with the covid vaccine booster through the Belper PCN Vaccine hub at Babington Hospital. If plans go ahead then Patients would receive two vaccines together, one in each arm.
* GP surgeries across the UK are reporting high levels of demand to that of pre-pandemic and Appletree is reporting similar statistics. Phone lines are busier due to the high number of calls being received, questions, queries.
* Appletree is remaining a telephone triage first appointment system. Many problems can be easily dealt with via the telephone but for those where a face to face appointment is necessary, the clinician will book the appointment. The reason for this decision is that Covid-19 is more active now in this area than it was at the height of the pandemic last year. Many patients are relying on the Lateral Flow Test (which do report false negatives) and patients are not isolating. If anybody has any symptoms, then a PCR test must be taken at a local Testing site. Consequently, Appletree feels it must continue to protect their patients and staff and telephone triage patients first.
* Recent publicity around the public not coming forward for suspected cancer during covid. Dr Thomson has done a recent audit on cancer referrals
  + Baseline audit on cancer referrals done in 2019
  + In 2020 referrals were up by 7%
  + In 2021 referrals were up by 21% which evidences that Appletree patients are coming forward and being seen.
* Dr Mark Browne retired at the end of June and Dr Hannah Simpson was appointed as a Salaried GP and started on 1st July 2021. Dr Simpson has been with the practice for the last two years, originally as a GP Registrar, then as a Locum.
* General Practice Data for Planning and Research (GPDPR) <https://appletreemedical.co.uk/sharing-information/gpdpr/>

There has been little publicity on the new GPDPR and the release of medical records for research purposes. Originally patients needed to Opt out by 30th June, then this was delayed until 1st September. The latest announcement is that the current NHS Digital (NHSD) extract of GP data for Research purposes (known as the GPDPR) has now been delayed due to NHSD wishing to review the way in which this data will be collected, to conduct more public involvement and information about the plans and change the way in which patients can opt out of the extract of their GP data.

* GP Survey

The annual NHSE patient survey has been completed and the results returned to Appletree. Overall the results are as expected and similar to previous years. 124 patients returned the survey which is approx. 1% of our practice population. The main complaint was getting through on the telephones, which we recognise as an issue at this present time. The positive news was that 93% of patients found the reception and clinical staff helpful.

Other Items:

1. Any other business

George reported that CCGs were being dissolved into Integrated Care Systems (ICS). Appletree has received emails regarding this but are awaiting further information.

Zoom time ran out and the meeting closed.