## **Present**: Zakira Amejee (ZA), Anwara Begum (AB), Agnieszka Polej (AP), Ahmed Mehter (AM), Collin Leroy Carter (Vice Chair), Cliff McClune (CM), Miriam Grunfeld (MG), Will Reedman (WR), Cheryl Robins (Secretary), Mary Walker (Chair).

**Agenda**

**1.      Welcome and Introductions:** The Chair welcomed Members.

**2. Apologies:** Sheila Mykoo, Dr Brown, Dr Khan,

**3.      Draft notes of Meeting 10.07.24** Approved

**4.      Matters Arising Meeting 10.07.24**

**4.1 Update about Practice Website, translation, and digital training for patients**

AP reported that the new website will be compatible with the existing site, maintain a similar design, and is in the process of being populated. It will go live soon. The software will include a voice facility, various font options, and translation capabilities. Past PPG notes will also be added. Digital training sessions for patients will be offered to empower them and bridge inequalities in accessing services.

**ACTION**: Digital training will begin on Tuesdays, with the potential for additional days starting in November. Applications for training can be submitted via GP or medical practitioners, through self-referral at the Spring Hill Reception, or on the Practice website. The Homerton Team will initially provide training for patients and volunteers (who will be vetted). WR noted that two individuals have already volunteered. The Homerton Team will evaluate the project and its outcomes after three months.

**4.2 Serious Mental Illness Report**

AP is overseeing the administration of this project, which commenced at the end of August. A report on the project’s progress will be deferred to the next FoSPPG meeting.

**ACTION:** Agenda for next meeting.

**4.3 GP Industrial Action Update**

AB reported that the current industrial action has not impacted patients. However, in response to Homerton or other secondary care’s requests for blood tests to be conducted by GPs, the Local Medical Committee (LMC) is collectively challenging this. If all blood tests are referred to GPs in the borough, it could impact targets, budgets, and staffing in Primary Care. The LMC will meet to review and decide on the next steps.

**ACTION:** Agenda for next meeting.

**5.   Belfast Road** (5:30 -6:00 pm)

Members wished to record their appreciation to AB and AP for all their hard work and achievements regarding the opening of the new surgery. AP wished to record that the new working environment has had a positive impact on staff well-being. Hackney Council is planning to nominate the Belfast Road building for a design award.

**5.1 Neighbours/Residents Open day feedback**

Some neighbours raised privacy concerns, which were directed to the council, not the practice. The council will review these concerns following its procedures. The practice has not received specific details of these complaints. We assure the community that the building’s design has undergone and passed all required safety checks and received regulatory approval.

**5.2 Official Opening**

No date has been fixed as yet, but it will involve the Mayor of Hackney.

**5.3 Better Together**

WR reported that Groups are beginning to meet at the new Surgery which is a nicer environment. Most of the indoor plants in the Meeting Room have come from the old Surgery. WR reported that Alex, the Care Coordinator at Cranwich Road Surgery is leaving but this will not affect the running of the groups at Spring Hill Practice.

AB said that there may be an opportunity to look at the additional green spaces around the surgery. A specialist team will be involved with the upkeep of the gardens.

AP said that there will be more opportunities for volunteers to help in the surgery, including IT tasks. All volunteers will go through the recruitment process including the Criminal Records check.

**5.4 Chairs for physically challenged patients.**

AB shared some designs which, she had obtained following advice from the Occupational Therapist, and it was agreed that four chairs with arms and high backs will be purchased for the Waiting Rooms.

**5.5 Information screens**

AB reported that the Conferencing facilities will be available using Team Zoom with a screen (65 inches) and speakers are to be installed in the meeting room.

For the waiting room upstairs - AB is considering the use of a TV screen which will show continuous health information.

AP advised that a check-in facility for patients will be installed near Reception.

AP said that there would be a carousel information stand containing leaflets and a screen on the ground floor as there is limited waiting room space.

A new blood pressure machine has been installed on the ground floor.

**6. Update from Practice**

AP reported that registered patents will be able to self-refer to the following services:

* Well Family Plus will provide emotional and practical support for people living with mild to moderate mental health challenges
* Information on Housing, Employment, and Immigration who will work closely with the Social Prescriber.
* Wellbeing Coach
* Smoking Cessation
* Citizen’s Advice
* Children’s Physio will soon be available monthly (TBC) across the PCN

New Services available include:

* Two new salaried GPs, Dr Anna Barber and Dr Mohammed Afgan
* Minor surgical services will be available on referral from a GP including, joint injections, removal of skin tags, and moles
* Two new registrars, Dr Laura Yallop and Dr Jemma Webster from Queen Mary’s Hospital
* The Social Prescriber, Carys Evans
* Jane Hunter who is working with patients 18 plus who are pre-diabetic or diabetic on lifestyle changes for better outcomes
* The Caribbean African Network (CAN) for bowel cancer will be providing a recall service at Spring Hill Practice.

MG will provide AP with information on Charedi groups that offer services in the community.

AB and AP reported that the PCN lead Nurse role is to be advertised and will help with immunisation within the Charedi community; uptake will be assessed and reviewed by the PCN to decide on future provisions.

Vaccinations available at the Practice for patients include flu, shingles, pneumonia, and RSV.

**7.     AOB**

The Chair reported that she has been attending the Springfield Neighbourhood Network, Action Group which is planning an event from 2-4 pm on Sunday, December 1st (location to be confirmed) to include representatives of local voluntary groups, the PCN and other agencies and services. The focus is on how you get to know what is available in your neighbourhood.

**10.   Date of Next Meeting 8 January 2025 (AGM)**