

## **Patient Participation Group (PPG)**

The Frithwood Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG) was formed during the 1990s when the practice moved to its current premises. It has developed over the years and is now a registered charity, number 1054582.

## **Our Committee**

Our committee is comprised of volunteer patients who have a special interest in helping the surgery and the patient community that it serves. Dr Nattrass is also on the committee, representing the practice. Our committee members have a range of backgrounds and experiences. Since the PPG is a charity, all committee members are trustees. We meet regularly during the year and a Practice Manager also attends our meetings. Our committee members are as follows:

|                     |                        |                         |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Jean Batten (Chair) | Tim Crouch (Treasurer) | Mary Brooks (Secretary) |
| Sue Bradley         | Janet Cadman           | Jane Gregg              |
| Harry Joyce         | Sue Korda              | David Scott             |
| Jenny Taylor        | Dr William Nattrass    |                         |

Our committee has links with the Stroud and Berkeley Vale Patient Participation Group Network and the Gloucestershire Patient Participation Group Network. A committee member attends their meetings.

## **What does the PPG do?**

We focus on supporting the surgery and its patient community, together with building links between the two in order to improve the patient experience.

## **What the PPG is not about**

We will not deal with personal medical issues or individual patient complaints as there is already a well established procedure to deal with these.

## **Our Achievements**

The members of the PPG committee have worked together to implement new ideas, increase health awareness in the community and support the practice.

Some of the purchases and support that the PPG has provided for the surgery and patient community in recent times are as follows:

- Spare vaccine fridge enabling the vaccination of hundreds of patients at COVID/flu clinics in a single day.
- Blood pressure monitors available to be loaned for home monitoring
- Special bariatric chair for the waiting room
- Handheld 12 lead ECGs, used by GPs and nurses to detect potential heart problems in patients without them needing a full ECG
- Supporting a new clinical room, resulting in extra space for more staff, by kitting out and transforming an area previously used for storage.
- Provision and fitting of specific ceiling mounted lighting to support the practice's ongoing minor surgery, vasectomy and women's health clinics.
- Replacement defibrillator
- Electric three section bariatric couch, especially suitable for suitable for patients with higher body weights or additional movement needs.
- Replacement INR machine
- Doppler machine for use out in the community with patients who are housebound or have mobility issues
- Organising CPR and defibrillator training sessions to support our patient community
- Organising a 'First Aid for Children' training evening to support people looking after young children, such as new parents, grandparents and babysitters
- Input to the new 'Falls Assessment Service' which is now provided by the practice
- Organising weekly Health Walks
- Organising a Christmas Party for patients aged over 75.
- Printing a quarterly PPG Newsletter
- Submitting regular 'latest news' articles about the surgery in three village newsletters

We are a committed and proactive committee and we would welcome your ideas for future projects.

### **How do we finance our activities?**

The PPG runs a 100 Club and anyone can become a member. Forms to join the 100 Club can be collected from the surgery or accessed by going online at <https://bit.ly/frithwoodfundraising> . We have also received donations from our patient community. The PPG committee would like to thank everyone who supports them as it makes all the difference to what we can provide for the surgery and our patient community.

### **How can you contact the PPG?**

You can contact the PPG via the surgery or by emailing [frithwoodppg@gmail.com](mailto:frithwoodppg@gmail.com)

### **Join our Patient Participation Group**

All patients registered with Frithwood Surgery are able to join our PPG. People of all genders, ages, ethnicities, and those with health conditions and disabilities are encouraged to join. We would like our committee to reflect the diversity of our patient community.

If you would like to join the PPG committee, or if you just want to find out more about it, please do one of the following options:

- fill out a [join our Patient Participation Group](#) form
- email [frithwoodppg@gmail.com](mailto:frithwoodppg@gmail.com)
- telephone the surgery on 01453 882868