



Monday 30th March 2009

Present

Neil, Alistair, Tracey, Nigel, Viv, Steve

Current funds

Currently £1730.00 within account, including a recent donation of £230.00 from Buckingham Foods as a result of a Christmas Raffle.

AGM

AGM cost £229, discussion was held regarding the format of the AGM and the implications of invites not reaching the intended audience until a short time prior to the event. Other ways of communicating with those who are not on the email list will have to be considered.

Thanks were given to the speaker from 'Diabetes UK' who gave an insight into work of the charity and 'Input' who provided interesting information on the benefits of pump therapy.

The format of the AGM aimed to encourage the attendance of as many people as possible. On reflection, it was felt that the voting of committee members needs to be formally done and that it was unfortunate that a new events organiser was not found.

Group Activities

Looking to organise a children's event every month even if it is just an opportunity for the children to meet.

Bowling - 18th April 3.00pm several lanes with the option of 1 or 2 games to accommodate differing ages. Followed by food to encourage wider interaction between the children. Viv looking into details.

Mead Open Farm - 16th May Possible rates of £4.00 per head, own picnics to be brought.

Drayton Manor – This trip has been very popular previously and it is hoped that the even can be used to raise awareness on a number of issues, perhaps during the coach journey.

Milton Keynes County Show – 30th May, MK Kids with Diabetes have a stall at the Milton Keynes country show, courtesy of Alistair/Captain Carpet.

Looking to raise the profile of the group and raise money on the day by having a tombola and selling home baked goods, hand made crafts etc (if any of you have handy grandparents!).

If anyone can contribute anything at all nearer the day, or if you are baking I can possibly collect or if you could drop to Tracey's workplace in Newport or to the shop in Olney would be great. Either way give me a call on 07949 998464.

This is a great opportunity for us as a group to raise some funds without it actually costing us anything to start with, so all you handy people out there.....!
Volunteers are needed for the day to man the stand as well, if you are available you would get into the show but its also big enough for you to have a day out too. Please call and we can arrange times, 1-2 hour slots would be great.

The show was held previously three years ago and welcomed over 6k visitors.

Christmas Panto We need to look at booking a date early to ensure a better take up than last year, Tacey is going to look in to this.

Possibility of a *charity clay pigeon shoot* details to follow.

Microsoft trip Nigel is going to look at dates for the Microsoft trip in the summer, transport will be provided and an opportunity for the children to give feedback on current products.

Campaigns

The group is continuing to try and promote a new start with regard to diabetes care with Milton Keynes Foundation Hospital, but we are yet to achieve any meaningful communication.

With regard to instigating change the group feels that there are so many issues that require to be resolved it is sometime difficult to come up with a cohesive message. Whilst the website covers the groups issues there was a discussion as to whether the group should pursue the ability of the hospital to be able offer pump therapy. It is hoped that an effect of this would be the improvement of all diabetes care whether or not this would include pump therapy.

Nick Hicks chair of MK PCT is to meet the group on 27th April 7.30pm at County Arms, New Bradwell to discuss the campaign objectives of the group. To ensure that the meeting is as productive as possible the committee will meet on 20th April at 7.00pm.

David Buckley has called Nigel regarding the new Paediatric Diabetes Nurse Jackie, her contract whilst it is for a year should be extended at the end.

Nigel is looking to get the JDRF to provide information on the latest developments in diabetes research.

Finally

The committee would like to thank the outgoing secretaries Mark and Sarah Hibble for their hard work and to welcome Steve and Jo Cook in to their new roles.

Next Meeting is Monday 27th April including a visit with Nick Hicks – Chair of PCT.