

Minutes of meeting 7th January 2016, 2-4pm

Venue: Mackenzie Centre, Burnley Gen. Hospital

19 people present, apologies from Pat & John Heyworth. No nurses in attendance this meeting.

Chairman's report

Dave opened the meeting wishing everybody a happy new year and reading the minutes of the December meeting, matters arising and correspondence since the last meeting.

He talked once again about less people attending meetings, a short discussion took place about how we could possibly remedy the situation and whether an evening meeting might improve attendance, general consensus was that we would lose some and possibly gain some. It appears that all we can do is to **keep the momentum going by continually promoting awareness of our group.**

Dave has purchased a £10 book for our library - A-Z of Prostate Cancer by Alan Lowram, and has also applied for a grant of £500 from the National Federation of Prostate Cancer Support Groups (Tackle), previously The PC Federation.

We discussed the matter again of volunteering to do the 'bucket collections' for Prostate Cancer UK and that we are not totally happy about the procedures PC UK operate for these events, i.e. we have to do all the work, including, finding and organising volunteers, collecting, counting and banking all the cash and last but not least **having to wait for over 2 months** to receive our half of the collected money! PC UK says they are currently looking in to it. Once again we intend to have our display stand at the Colne Beer Festival beginning of February.

Secretary's report

Stuart read out correspondence he had received since the last meeting including notification of the Prostate Federation Executive Committee meeting on 14th January @ Altrincham.

The date is now fixed for the blood testing event at Turf Moor sponsored by Barry Kilby, it will be held in the James Hargreaves Stand, Sat 13th Feb. Radio Lancashire will be broadcasting their Saturday morning programme from the event. They will be talking to people during the morning and will interview

Gary Steele during the prog. It will also be announced on their programmes during the week prior to the event. Barry Kilby will also be interviewed on a programme during the week prior to the event. -

Brew Time

Our own member Tim O. kindly spoke about being on a trial. The trial was to establish if reducing the number of radiation treatments and replacing with 'double dose' radiation would have any other effect. The trial was set up with approximately 1000+ patients nationwide, the outcome was that there was little difference between the two methods. A benefit would be that patients would have less travelling to hospitals and it would reduce the cost for the NHS.

A film was then shown – Track my PSA. This is a website set up so that patients (and medical people) can track their PSA results using an online graph. It also has other facilities where patients can add dates of appointments etc. The film was produced to show people how to enter all the information and was very helpful and informative.

Website: www.trackmyspsa.com/video/standalone/

Username: TMPSE

Password: video2015

(Case sensitive)

This was followed by an amusing film about two Parrots 'singing' and followed by one of Dave's closing jokes.

Raffle: £21

Next meeting: Thursday 4th February 2016