

Minutes of Thursday 1st February 2018
Venue Mackenzie Centre Burnley Gen Hospital, 2-4pm

Present: 28 people including our specialist nurse Deborah Dobson, and the speaker Doctor Parikh.
Apologies: M. Spears and Glenn South.

Dave, Chairman, opened the meeting by reading the Minutes of the January meeting. A discussion took place on some of the items in these Minutes. An update was given as to where our proposed donations could go. It has been agreed that we will give £500 to the Rosemere initiative new Chemotherapy unit at Burnley General Hospital and £500 to improvements at the Urology department at the Royal Blackburn hospital. Our nurse, Deborah said she thought the rooms where the men had consultations for Prostate Cancer could be made more comfortable for the men to help them relax.

Dave reported on the campaign by the Federation (tackle) in co-operation with Prostate Cancer UK who are taking up Gary Steele's idea "cycle to the moon" and save a dad by asking for £1 per mile. This campaign is going ahead and Tackle would like Support Groups & people to get behind the campaign. If we have more news on this campaign we will report on it at the next meeting.

Stuart gave an update on the condition of Glenn Southworth who now has to undertake a Heart Bypass operation in Blackpool. He and Dave intend to visit him and will let the members know how he is bearing up.

We had a guest visitor at our meeting, Doctor Narayana MBE, a retired GP who had had a surgery in Brierfield. He runs a support group for Diabetes in Pendle which meets on the 3rd Monday of every month at 7.30 – 9.00 p.m. at Belvedere Rugby Club. He spoke for a short while introducing himself and explaining that Diabetes is a big problem in this area and that it is on the increase nationally. He attended our prostate support group out of interest and offered the observation that he thought it was very important to **continually** raise awareness of Prostate Cancer everywhere so that men would feel the need to get themselves checked out.

Stuart reported on an invitation that had been received from the Royal Preston Hospital in conjunction with Rosemere which is an Open Evening on the benefits of Robotic surgery. Stuart has details of this if anyone is interested in attending. It is Friday 9th February 7.00 – 9.00 p.m. Stuart will attend and John G. agreed to accompany him. He will report on this at the next meeting.

- BREAK FOR BREW – The raffle was drawn and made £31. Doctor Parikh donated £5.
- In the 2nd half of the meeting there was a presentation by Doctor Parikh, Uro-Oncologist for East Lancs. This presentation was very interesting and informative on different drug trials. Afterwards there was a question and answer session and everyone felt this had been a very worthwhile meeting.
- The meeting drew to a close with a reminder of the next meeting to be held at the McKenzie Medical Centre Lounge Bar on Thursday, 1st March 2018.