

Mansion House PPG

Meeting Notes

25 October 2018

Present: Alan Webb
Luise Leech
Angela Bibby
Michael Harrison
Christine Kirk
Trevor Prowse
Wendy McBain (Practice Manager)
Sue Graham (Chair)
Julie Pennington (Secretary)
Lilian Simmonds (Guest Speaker, Hospice at Home)

Next Meeting: Thursday, 22 November 2018 (17:00 – 18:00)

1. The Chair welcomed the group & Guest Speaker, Lilian Simmonds from Hospice at Home.
2. **Apologies:** Aiden Timney
3. Lilian Simmonds, Senior Nurse for Hospice at Home, was invited to discuss her role as an end of life care improvement facilitator. In particular Lilian's talk to the group highlighted issues around advanced care planning.

Outlining the fact that less than 20% of people discuss their end of life wishes & only 35% of GP's will prompt any discussion on end of life issues with patients, there is a desperate & growing need for a more empathetic approach toward a person's final wishes. So much is at stake, from health & wellbeing to personal belongings, finances, property & assets at this critical stage in life. Using case studies, Lilian outlined the need to prompt discussion about what that individual would like to happen on their demise. That conversation could be driven by a combination of requirements, for example some individuals may require spiritual reassurance whilst others may focus more on domestic needs: both in the immediate & longer term. Hospice at Home & Age UK provide literature & simple forms dedicated to end of life care & wishes of the deceased that can be useful for remaining family & friends to refer to & administer.

Lilian's message was simple 'We must all take responsibility for discussing our end of life care & wishes in order to prevent a chaotic & possibly upsetting demise'.

Several booklets on issues raised by Lilian were given to members of the PPG.

The Chair gave thanks to Lilian on behalf of all PPG members for an informative & thought-provoking discussion.

4. **Any other business:** As we ran out of time at this meeting, Sue mentioned that her update on the Keswick workshop, 18 September, would be summarized at a later date.

Action ongoing: PPG members to send any ideas of topics/guest speakers for future sessions to Sue Graham.

The meeting closed at 1800hrs.

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