

## BCMP Community Group Public Update - January 2024

The BCMP Community Group Committee would like to wish all the patients of the Brown Cleve Medical Practice a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2024. We would like to especially like to thank all those patients who came to the various Roadshows. Your participation and feedback has made an invaluable contribution to the initiative.

We're delighted to see there is clearly a great deal of support for the path the Group is taking. The review of the comments received at the Roadshows indicates almost 90% of attendees were "very happy" with the approach being taken.

A similar number supported the features proposed for the new "incorporated" Community Benefit Society (CBS) needed to own the premises. The CBS model meets the criteria of being community-owned, for community benefit and not-for-profit, while being able to issue community shares and, if so decided, to have charitable status.

There was a great deal of interest in being able to invest in 'community shares' as well as to make donations or loans. The indications people gave on the forms they completed at the end of the roadshow about the extent of financial support they would be willing to provide gives us real confidence that, together with grants obtainable to support community investment, we will be able to raise the sums of money necessary to purchase the premises and equip them for the future.

One final piece of feedback received from some of those attending the Roadshows suggests there is sometimes confusion between the roles of the BCMP Community Group and the Brown Cleve Medical Practice Patient Group (PPG), currently chaired by Tina Ranson. Both groups recognise this and may issue a joint statement in early 2024 to further add clarity. However, our new Community Benefit Society will have a new name and will supersede the BCMP Community Group and this should help in differentiating the activities going forward.

The Community Group will be soon at the stage where it requires funds so that it can meet the fees associated with the forming of a legal entity. In the first instance we have requested a small grant from each of the Parish Councils within the surgery catchment area. If this request does not raise the required amounts then we will look to organising some fund raising events in the spring.

The BCMP Community Group will be holding an event, provisionally 9th June 2024 and will be at Pam's Pools in Underton. Pam Yuille has kindly offered the venue for the event and we thank her for her generosity. The date will be confirmed early next year. In addition it is hoped that there will be an "open garden" event kindly hosted by Bob Browning in July 2024.

A small group of patients from Ditton Priors have suggested an event to raise awareness of the initiative by organising a "Climb Everest" walk to the top of Brown Cleve. The idea being that if the required number of people participate it would be the equivalent of climbing Everest. The Group wholly supports this and we look forward to this event in the autumn of 2024.

The next milestone of registering the incorporated legal entity, CBS, should conclude during the first quarter of this year and this will be announced once completed. Many thanks for your continued interest and support.