



THE FRIENDS OF CHIDDINGFOLD SURGERY

Registered Charity No. 1080617

Annual report 2016 – 2017

The aim of the Friends of Chiddingfold Surgery (FCS) is to benefit local people “through the relief of sickness and the protection and preservation of public health by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities and equipment at the Surgery which would not otherwise be provided out of statutory funds”. Throughout the year, the Trustees kept in mind these aims together with the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit.

In 2016-17, FCS’s income was exceptionally high, totalling almost £56,000, due to the receipt of a legacy from Mr and Mrs Davis of almost £48,700. Donations (including Gift Aid) totalled some £5,800 with a further £1,200 generated from fund-raising events. The details are shown in the accounts.

During the year, the VAT rules were revised so that FCS could no longer purchase items at zero rate. This means most of our costs rose by 20%. In 2016-17, FCS spent £18,400, divided roughly equally between three headings:

- We underwrote the conversion of an office at the Chiddingfold Surgery to a treatment room – named the Davis Room – and spent nearly £13,000 on building works and equipment. However, the Surgery was able to obtain a grant of some £7,000 from the NHS towards this work and so that in the event, FCS paid only about £6,000.
- Almost another £6,000 was spent on other equipment: a 24-hour ECG monitor, five paediatric oximeters, a phlebotomy chair and noticeboards.
- Maintenance of equipment and medical consumables cost £5,500.

Again, the details are in the accounts. No Trustees received any remuneration or payment for allowable expenses. (FCS approved a further £7,000 of expenditure, which will be made in 2017-18 and met out of the legacy.)

By the end of the year, FCS had reserves of almost £70,000. FCS is proposing to ring-fence a substantial proportion of this money and invest it to generate income to protect its future. To this end, an initial investment of £1,000 was made in the COIF Charities Investment Fund managed by CCLA; and further sums will be invested in the coming year.

During the year, we reviewed and revised our Constitution and these changes were approved by the Charity Commission.

To publicise FCS, we used the noticeboards at the Surgeries, our website and Facebook page and parish magazines. In addition, FCS had a high profile attendance at Chiddingfold Fete in June; and in October held a fund-raising quiz with a fish-and-chip supper in Chiddingfold village hall. At that event, we launched a membership scheme and by the end of the year, had 18 members (in addition to the 12 Trustees).

To sum up, 2016-17 was an exceptional year for FCS.

In 2017-18, FCS expects to cover some £5,500 maintenance and running costs and, as noted, spend some £7,000 on equipment purchases already approved as well as giving careful consideration to any further equipment requests from the Surgery. The Trustees are satisfied that FCS can meet these commitments for the forthcoming year.