

Minutes of PPG meeting – 2nd July 2014

Attendees : DP, SOR, BK, JW, DB JH,CL, FC Apologies: SS, JS

1. BK welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Minutes from last meeting held on 4th June 2014 accepted as accurate and correct.
3. Practice news – Dr Kirwin has now relocated to Devon. Dr Sarah Pepper will start on 24th August, taking over his patients. Dr Rachel McGivern will start on 1st September, replacing Dr O Reilly who will retire on 7th September. DP announced that Dr Cox will be off sick for the next three weeks. Signs have been placed in the surgeries regarding possible difficulties in booking appointments. Some sessions are being covered by other doctors who work at the Practice. Dr Goldacre is covering the maternity leave of Dr Burt.
4. Health Watch – Tamar Sutton from Health Watch North Somerset came to the meeting to discuss the role of Health Watch. Health Watch North Somerset is based in Crown Plaza, Nailsea and was set up in April 2013. Five people work in the branch and volunteers also help to put on events. It is funded by central government and gives local people a voice in health and social care. They visit PPG's and voluntary organisations and engage with schools and carers groups using forms for feedback. They can enter and view hospitals, GP practices, care homes and dentists for example and talk to staff and patients and make recommendations. They can deal with subjects such as waiting list times and difficulties with getting appointments. Other complaints get dealt with by SEAP. Last week Health Watch organised a community event in Weston Super Mare which was attended by about 50 people.
5. N.A.P.P newsletter – Physician Assistants are 'mid level' practitioners who have completed 2 postgraduate years of intensive medical programme in both hospital and general practice settings. Some practices are employing physician assistants and a study by the National Institute of Healthcare Research is investigating their contribution to the delivery of patient care.

DP is to circulate the password to PPG members to log on to the N.A.P.P website.
6. Letter re annual reviews – Letters are being sent out to the over 75's with their named GP. Letters for those patients eligible for the shingles vaccination are also being sent out.
7. A.O.B – It was decided to postpone the PPG event at the community market pencilled in for September until later in the year.
9. Close of meeting – BK and DP thanked everyone for attending. DP also thanked SOR for her contribution as it was her last meeting before her retirement. She was wished a happy retirement from all the PPG members.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 3rd September 2014 6-7.30pm at Brockway.

(There will be no meeting in August due to summer holidays)