

Minutes of PPG meeting – 4th June 2014

Attendees : DP, SOR, BK, JW, DB Apologies: JH,CL,DL

1. BK welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Minutes from last meeting held on 7th May 2014 accepted as accurate and correct.
3. Matters arising – ‘Save General Practice’ plea by GPs. A petition and poster produced by the Royal College of General Practitioners and the National Association for Patient Participation will be sent to all surgeries in the UK. This calls on the governments of the UK to reverse the cuts made to the funding of general practice over the last decade. DP wondered whether a letter regarding this should be sent to the PPG/PRG. DP asked BK to draft a letter and circulate to the PPG members. It can then be decided whether to have copies available in the surgeries.
4. Practice news – In addition to Dr Sarah Pepper, Dr Rachel McGivern has now been appointed as a Partner. She is relocating back to the area and will start on 1st September, Dr O Reilly will retire on the same date. DP announced a new receptionist has been appointed and a new summariser will start in July. Due to long term staff sickness, in the nursing team, the Practice have needed to use Bank staff to work in the Treatment Room. This has involved nurses that have left the District Nursing team so are known to the Practice.

DP has regular contact with Barbara Harris from Diabetes UK. Diabetic patients at the Practice with registered email addresses or mobile phone numbers have been contacted about a coffee morning organised by Diabetes UK to be held at the Nailsea Baptist Church Cafe on 11 June. DP discussed her work in compiling a Carers Register. DP and Debbie Francis have used a DVD and case studies to make a training package. Due to the number of young carers they would like to take the package into secondary schools so schools can help any pupils who are carers. DP would like to run the presentation through the PPG. DP said carers are very important so the Practice always helps in addressing their needs.
5. Report on the NSCCG meeting for forward planning – DP and BK went to the Spring Stakeholder Event at Clevedon Hall on 15th May. They attended various workshops and felt the event was a success with lots of people attending. DP said there are lots of voluntary sectors but people are not always aware of them. Some of these sectors overlap and funding may only be for short periods of time. How can these be signposted easier? DP addressed the event during a Primary Care Workshop explaining what general practice is like from the perspective of someone working in that area. DP said more patients are being encouraged to self manage. At the next PPG DP would like to discuss the over 75's and unnecessary hospital admissions so would like the subject to be put on the agenda.
6. Healthwatch, North Somerset is holding a public meeting at St George's Community Centre, Weston Super Mare on 24th June from 2.30 – 4.30pm to find out what services work and what improvements are needed. DP is planning to go to the meeting and would like some patients to go too. BK will ask members if they would like to do so.
7. Weston Area Health Trust – It has been announced that Weston will now either merge with another NHS Trust, or be acquired by a NHS Foundation Trust. The open market procurement process will end and the Trust expects to announce the successful bidder in autumn 2014.
9. Close of meeting – BK and DP thanked everyone for attending.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 2nd July 2014 6-7.30pm at Brockway.