

Summary: Hodnet Medical Centre PPG Meeting Thurs 12th April 2018

Present: Christine Charlesworth; Helen Charnock; Alf & Helen Ford; Mary Hardy (Secretary); Richard Holtom (Chair); Jayne Holtom; Christine Poole; Dr Raichura (NR)

Apologies: Karen Calder; Kaye Jones

RH opened the meeting at 1.00pm and welcomed everyone.

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a correct record of proceedings.

Membership: Resignations

Since the last meeting and quite independently of one another, both Steve Alden and Andy Sutton had decided to resign from the PPG, each submitting letters of resignation to the Chair/Secretary. These had been included with the agenda for this meeting and RH read them aloud, pointing out the common thread of dissatisfaction with the level of Practice interaction with the group, and that we had lost two members with IT skills.

Discussion moved on to who might take responsibility for the FB page in future. KJ had told MH that she would be willing to do this. MH to confirm this with her.

Matters arising

Bicycle Parking

RH reported no further progress on this, suspecting that no decision had been reached about who would commission the job and how it would be funded. He agreed to check with the Lyon Hall Committee, and KC to do the same with the Parish Council.

Co Co update

MH reported that the project now had four clients being visited regularly by volunteers, and one recently recruited volunteer about to go for training. She had received several enquiries recently regarding male clients, so had been trying to recruit some male volunteers. CC had not yet managed to upload the Co Co publicity item to the Practice website, but would attend to this shortly.

Ellerdine Closure Information

CC had not yet sent this for inclusion on the PPG FB page as the letter was still in draft form and awaiting final details about the procedure for obtaining medications. Once completed, she would forward the information to KJ.

On-line repeat prescription orders

The Practice acknowledged the discrepancy between the information featured on Patient Access and on the Practice website regarding the order-collection lag time. These had now been aligned to inform users that 72 working hours are required.

Subsequent discussion highlighted the irony that a successful promotion of Patient Access had led to increased uptake and this to a longer period between order and collection.

Update on plans for mental health event (May 24th)

KC had been unable to liaise effectively with the Community Enablement Officer as he had been off sick, so plans had not come together as expected. For various reasons it was agreed to abandon the idea of an event on 24th May, but to put the item on the next agenda for consideration as a possibility for the autumn. Care should be taken to avoid clashes with future Community Enterprise H&W events in Drayton. Check Action List to make sure that any arrangements we had already made are cancelled to avoid confusion.

Extended Hours for Patient Appointments

KC had asked for this to feature on the agenda, as the provision of extended hours is intended to be operational in principle from October.

KJ had attended a recent CCG meeting for PPGs on the topic, the notes from which MH would make available for members to download.

Practice staff had been party to discussions on the matter at Locality level and a general discussion ensued, with NR commenting that seven day health care was more likely to become a reality in larger cities. In rural areas, he felt that many patients, particularly older people, would prefer the continuity of local provision and seeing their own doctor.

It was thought that bookings for later or weekend appointments would be made through a centralised number, and that patients would be guaranteed access to some medical personnel although not necessarily a doctor.

With neighbouring practices of a similar size to Hodnet, it was likely that any patients wishing to use the extended service would need to make a comparatively long journey to a larger town.

But the provision could prove useful for younger people at work during HMC opening hours, who might be happy to drive further in order to see a doctor at a time convenient to them.

It was agreed to include an update on this item in next meeting's agenda.

NHS Health Checks

In response to the enquiry by SA at the last meeting about annual cholesterol blood tests being offered by some practices, Dr Mehta had sent the following information:

>>We are mindful of this, and this may be a project later this year. The project would take a significant amount of time to organise the appropriate tests, and cost involved in admin time, nurses' appointment time, doctors' time interpreting results, and stamps for some 200 patients. 200 patients x 10/60 = 33 hours of nurse time/week taking blood. Generally speaking if a patient is taking a statin there is a 40% reduction shown by research. Additional problem of lack of room availability, as the room is used for DRUM reviews, NHS Health Checks and diabetic foot screening.<<

Discussion then moved to clarification of the procedure re health checks, with some confusion being expressed about the Public Health England component of these. MH had asked last time how Hodnet Medical Centre fulfils the policy outlined in the NHS/ Shropshire leaflet entitled "When you get the call, go!" This leaflet can be viewed on our private download page:

<http://www.hodnet.org.uk/temp/ppg/>

NR explained that the Practice prioritises those patients thought to be at greatest risk after analysis of their data, then the checks are carried out by a PHE staff member on practice premises. He considers that this system works well.

It was agreed that some text explaining how health checks work in this Practice and the connection with PHE could be useful, so CC to draft something to clarify this.

Practice Report

CC reported that a full-time dispenser had now been recruited, but no progress had been made regarding the recruitment of a locum. NR expanded some of the reasons behind the national shortage of doctors, particularly women.

A.O.B.

None

Date of next meeting: Thursday 12th July, 1pm, The Bear.

ACTION LIST

RH

investigate progress on bicycle parking rack with Lyon Hall Committee
cancel Lyon Hall booking for 24th May

KC

ask Parish Council about progress on bicycle parking rack for Lyon Hall

MH

confirm with KJ about FB page
cancel provisional arrangement re 24th May

HF

Inform WI that refreshments are no longer needed on 24th May

CC

upload Co Co publicity item to Practice website
forward information about Ellerdine closure to KJ when finalised
draft item explaining about health checks