

**North Dorset PPG Chairs meeting – 26 February 2020**  
**Sturminster Newton Medical Centre**  
**Notes of Meeting**

**Present:**

Graham Cobb (GC)	Chair, Blandford Group Practice PPG
Tony Bishop (TB)	Stalbridge community representative
Hazel Haigh	Blandford Group Practice PPG
Ian Gall (IG)	Chair, Sturminster Newton & Marnhull PPG
Bob Trethewey (BT)	Chair, North Dorset Health Network Group
Mark Hebditch (MH)	Chair, Gillingham PPG
Sue Brazier (SB)	NHS Dorset CCG Communications & Engagement Team
Gill Foott (GF)	NHS Dorset CCG Communications & Engagement Team

**Apologies:**

Tony Meehan (TM)	Chair, Grove PPG
Robert Cobb (RC)	Chair, Shaftesbury & Fontmell Magna PPG
Roger Marsh (RM)	Vice Chair, Grove PPG

**ACTION**

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies were received from TM, RM and RC.

**2. Minutes of last meeting and any actions or matters arising**

The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed. TB reported that following closure of Stalbridge Practice there were still some patients that had not registered at another practice. He asked if anything needed to be done in Stalbridge to encourage people to register?

GF to check with Primary Care Team.

*Post-meeting note: GF has received confirmation from the Primary Care Team that general practice had been made available to everyone living in the area, and vulnerable patients had been identified and supported.*

Complete.

**3. Round Table Updates**

Sherborne – Email update provided by TM

- Merger making good progress and the initial challenges have been overcome.
- Building works will be completed in March – formal opening scheduled for 1 May.

- DNA numbers are down.
- Increased use of online services is encouraging.
- Practice initiatives include:
  - Safe Surgery – refugees and asylum seekers
  - Veterans
  - Vulnerable homeless
- PPG newsletter scheduled will go out 1 April – main features – Bowel Cancer month, Ageing, Happy Healthy You, Systems Online Community Hub, profile of two new doctors.
- PPG Projects:
  - Bereavement services – progressing well – proposal to create a Sherborne Bereavement group established – funding being sought.
  - Who's Who in healthcare in Sherborne – second edition at the printers.
  - Who's Who Carers services in Sherborne ready for printing.
  - Sherborne Girls pupil clinical services survey part 2 under way.
  - Review document of the Grove PPG functionality written and ready for discussion at the next PPG meeting.

TM will be stepping down as Chair of the Grove PPG in March. RM will stand in until next AGM in March.

Blackmore Vale Partnership (Sturminster & Shaftesbury) - Updates provided by IG

- Plans are in place to deal with coronavirus. Advice being given to patients.
- Carers clinic, supported by PPG, now runs at Sturminster and Abbey View, awarded gold standard accreditation.
- Health Champions – very successful drop-in sessions at The Hub Café which

has led to a reduction in High Intensity Users contacting practice. PPG is working with them.

- Ideal Health Exhibition – PPGs will be doing another one with a focus on Men’s Health.
- Vale Primary Care Network event – men’s Dementia group leader would be a good Health Champion.
- The Our Dorset Public Engagement Group (PEG) membership refresh – 10 members needed.
- Roy Lilley who is a commentator on health and social care matters, a management guru and generally an influential figure in these areas, visited the BMV Practice at Shaftesbury and met some of the Health Champions and he took time to find out what the Practice was doing. He also met the Walking Group on their 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary. This is the piece he wrote about that visit.

SB send PEG  
info and HIN  
sign-up to all -  
Complete

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/A-convert.html?soid=1102665899193&aid=hpKrIXJFw8>

#### Stalbridge area - Updates provided by TB

Local people are being inappropriately directed to the voluntary driving scheme (some for urgent journeys). A volunteer driver was put under pressure by doctors to take a cancer patient to Yeatman Hospital for follow up treatment.

#### Gillingham PPG – Updates provided by MH

- Gillingham HCs running weekly drop-in session – held in the waiting room.
- MH commented that practices are really embracing HCs but that it was a challenge for PPGs to define their role differently to them. There is a big overlap. HCs/PPG relationship needs to be developed – there are opportunities for them to work more closely together.

- Men in Sheds group started and is thriving in Gillingham. Discussion started in PPG, a steering group quickly formed – a member just got up and ran with it.
- HCs and Gillingham practice staff will have Dementia training.
- Gillingham seeking carers accreditation.
- Mayor holding coffee morning with local community support groups. Keith Harrison will be doing something on HCs. Good networking opportunity.
- Clarity Team Net – web-based facility allows people in an organisation to communicate. Has a shared calendar. Powerful tool – has information available to download. Hoping to have a PPG section to include director of comm organisations and events.
- Now a Community Pantry in Gillingham. People pay a subscription and they can collect food which comes from unused supermarket stock.
- Steve Richardson, PPG member, has done a fantastic piece of mapping to identify areas of deprivation. He found that greatest need was in towns.

#### Blandford – Bob Trethewey

BT picked up ear wax management leaflet – syringing service is stopping and is now being provided by local hospital, or people can DIY with equipment available commercially. BT has 2700 kits which he is happy to give FOC – he can post them.

#### Blandford PPG – update provided by GC and HH

- Probable that GPs will no longer provide Military Service Clinic at Blandford Camp. Patients to come to surgery. More efficient for doctors but patients could be disadvantaged e.g. transport, accessing a translator (currently interpreters are sourced from the camp), treating females from different cultures who need chaperones. The PPG is challenging this decision.
- Military mental health and carers issues – it is not clear how patients are being identified and supported – methods don't seem thorough.

- PTSD support group running at the camp again.

**4. Annual Dorset PPG Conference**

Working party of 6 PPG Chairs from across the county met with JG, SB and GF to plan the event arranged for 1 June 2020 at the Dorford Centre, Dorchester. More details to follow as plans develop.

*Post meeting note: COVID-19 may lead to this event being postponed.*

**5. Corona virus – are local practices prepared?**

Practices are receiving daily updates and are following NHS England and Government guidelines.

**6. Any Other Business**

IG – ask Keith Harrison – can we share Steve’s work?

TM – can this group do anything? c/f to next meeting – agenda item.

IG  
SB/GF

**7. Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 8 April 2020 – Abbey View Surgery, Shaftesbury

*Post meeting note – April meeting to be cancelled due to the current COVID-19 outbreak and restrictions on going out. The May meeting to be reviewed nearer the time.*