

# The Grove Patient Participation Group

## Sherborne

### Minutes

13<sup>th</sup>.March 2023  
6:00pm

**Present:** David Bartle (Vice Chair) **(DB)**; Jane Carling **(JC1)**; Joan Cooper **(JC)**; Jenny Davis **(JD)**; Carol Foster **(CF)**; Sarah Garside **(SG)**; Maria Heard **(MH)**; Alex Kimber (Managing Partner) **(AK)**; Roger Marsh (Chair) **(RM)**; Tony Meehan **(TM)**; Dr. Charlie Middle **(CM)**; Vicky Morland (Social Prescriber) **(VM)**; Lorraine Wallington **(LW)**; Amy; and Sinali (Sherborne Girls – students).

#### 1. Introductions:

As new members were attending the meeting for the first time, around the table introductions were carried out.

#### 2. Apologies: Bruce Duncan **(BD)**; Gill Foott (Engagement and Communications Coordinator [PPGs]) **(GF)**; Karen Gough **(KG)**; Jenny (Sherborne Girls student).

#### 3. Practice Update: (Managing Partner)

**(AK)** reported on the fact that the practice was still continuing to be extremely busy. Subsequent to the last PPG meeting Practice Nurse Alex had now joined the Practice.

(Various other issues relating to the Practice were discussed and reported on under separate headings).

#### 4. NHS Dorset - Engagement & Communications (PPGs)

**(GF)** had offered her apologies for non-attendance due to illness. However, **(RM)** stated that he continued to circulate the weekly updates from **(GF)** to PPG members.

#### 5. Health Champions – (Vicky Morland)

**(VM)** updated the meeting on her work involving the 'Health Champions'.

She reported on the various groups that continue to operate for the benefit of patients who are registered with any of the three medical practices within the Sherborne Primary Care Network. The groups include the 'Chatty Café'; Cancer Support Group; and Bereavement Support Group. In addition it was hoped to set up a Fibromyalgia Support Group in the near future.

Subsequent to the previous PPG meeting more people had now been trained as walk leaders for the the weekly 'Healthy Walks' in Sherborne.

#### 6. Military Veterans Support Group

It was pleasing to report that the group appeared to be going from strength to strength, meeting on the third Saturday of each month at Manor Court, the numbers had grown with several new members attending. Most recently the group was given a talk by John Stokoe CB CBE on his personal experiences of handling post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

#### 7. Apples PPG Report

In his absence **(BD)** had submitted the following report from the Apples PPG:

- The quest to find a better method of sharing information with patients had now started, with a first trial phase, by the use of text messages every month. These were limited in length at the present stage, to 3 or 4 "bites" of information.
- The web site was being refreshed, so the Patients Group had a higher profile. This would also in due course, trigger more information on the monthly information bites where appropriate, plus of course updates on the Practice and NHS..
- An annual plan neared completion, which also considers the way to approach patients who are digitally excluded.

- Clinically the Practice had been joined by a Prescribing Nurse, and was looking forward to more work with the Social Prescribers’.
- Covid over 75 booster jabs were on the agenda again.
- The Practice was looking forward to changing its strategy, as the very high patient demands required a fresh look, and an adaptation to cope with current and future opportunities

#### 8. Actions from 23<sup>rd</sup>.January 2023 Meeting

- i) **Report on Project for Sherborne Girls**  
Agreed that (RM) would liaise with Mrs. Mackintosh of Sherborne Girls School..  
**(Action: RM)**
- ii) **Method for opting out of flu and covid vaccinations:**  
Patient informed. **(Action: Closed)**
- iii) **‘Stormbreak presentation:**  
Agreed to contact Martin Yelling to determine whether his team could make a presentation to the next PPG meeting. **(Action: RM)**
- iv) **St Johns’ Almshouse:**  
Letter sent from the PPG to the Guardians and a response received stating that an update on the position of closure had been posted on their website. It was noted that three members of the Grove PPG had established an action group and were meeting with the Guardians. It was agreed that a report back would be made at the next PPG meeting.  
**(Action:TM; JC and JC1)**
- v) **Practice Tour**  
This action was ongoing with a date to be arranged. **(Action: AK)**

#### 9. Any Other Business: (All)

- i) **The Sherborne Area Directory for Health and Care**  
(RM) reported that with the help of the Health Champions he had now produced an update for 2023 of the existing directory. The cost for producing 3,000 printed copies was £1,000 and he had secured £300 funding to date from the Sherborne Summer Festival. It was intended that a grant application for the remaining £700 would be made to the Simon Digby (Memorial) Trust. **(Action: RM)**  
Additionally it was intended to distribute printed copies to the over 75s patients when they attended the covid clinics. Furthermore, printed copies would also be distributed locally with a digital copy posted on social media. **(Action: RM)**
- ii) **Informing patients of Practice Workload:**  
Following a request from the Practice a short video had been produced and was shown to the meeting.This had been prepared from information contained in a letter from the Practice that gave facts and figures relating to their excessive workload.  
After discussion it was agreed that the Sherborne Girls student members would look at preparing a short information video that could be posted on various social medial platforms. **(Action: Sherborne Girls)**  
In addition it was agreed to forward a copy of the PowerPoint version to (TM). **(Action: RM)**
- ii) **Reorganising Urgent Treatment Centre:**  
**(RM)** informed the meeting that work was ongoing by NHS Dorset to reform the urgent care. It was intended that a discussion would be held with an informed audience shortly to which members of the PPG would be invited to take part. It was agreed to inform members once details had been finalised. **(Action: RM)**

- iv) NHS Somerset Hyper-Acute Stroke Unit:**  
Members of the meeting were reminded that a questionnaire had been produced of the subject of reorganising NHS Somerset's stroke service and that members were encouraged to submit their views via the questionnaire which could be accessed via: <https://online.ors.org.uk/questionnaire/1523F2A>
- v) Stroke Rehabilitation – Yeatman Hospital:**  
(RM) reported that a joint business case for £1.2 M had been allocated for the provision of stroke care in the West Dorset area. DCHT and DCH were currently working through this funding to determine how this money would be spent. Currently the Yeatman Hospital had 10 stroke beds and it was likely that this would increase to 14.  
The Friends of the Yeatman Hospital (FOYH) trustees met with Paul Williams (Head of Capital Planning – Dorset Healthcare University Foundation Trust) and it was agreed to carry out a FOYH funded refurbishment project to transform an existing bathroom at the hospital into a therapy kitchen and this would be completed in the 2023/4 financial year.
- vi) Covid Vaccination Spring Booster:**  
(AK) informed the meeting that the Grove Medical Centre would be conducting vaccination clinics for the over 75s and vulnerable patients on both the 22<sup>nd</sup>.April and 13<sup>th</sup>.May. Help was requested from PPG members on both dates. In addition, (VM) agreed to enlist the help of the Health Champions. **(Action: VM)**
- vii) Digital help for patients:**  
A request had been received from Sarah Webster (PCN Manager) whose friend was completing a degree around the use of technology and would like to base some of her studies around engaging NHS Patients to use digital resources. She was happy to help run a Digital Drop in group (maybe at the library?) to help promote the use of technology, for patients to engage with online resources – including the NHS APP. She could possibly compile a small leaflet as a guide to 'getting online' that could be used.  
It was agreed that she should be put in touch with Paul Whybrew who was already conducting a similar function locally.
- viii) Orienteering:**  
(DB) informed the meeting that following the PPG initiative of establishing of an orienteering course around Sherborne, many of the returnable maps had been taken by visitors to the town as a useful guide and had not been returned. Subsequently, a further £100 had been spent on reproducing a further batch of maps which would be available from the Library over the counter rather than freely displayed for people to take.  
In addition he stated that it was intended to hold a wider orienteering session in June around the Sherborne course. This was being organised by the Wimborne Orienteers and should draw in a large number of competitors.
- ix) Community Fridge:**  
(JC1) informed the meeting that after sometime of attempting to set up a community fridge in Sherborne that plans were now advanced at establishing one at the Community Hub in Cheap Street. She advised the meeting that volunteers were urgently needed to run the project.
- x) Community Nursing:**  
(JD) enquired regarding the position of recruitment of community nurses. It was stated that this was still proving to be difficult in filling vacancies.
- 10) Date of next meeting:**

**TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup>.MAY 2023 at 6.00 pm at the Grove Medical Centre**