

The Grove Patients Group
Sherborne
Minutes
25th.May 2022
5:30pm
(Meeting conducted via 'Zoom')

Present: David Bartle **(DB)**; Dr Rob Childs **(RC)**; Bruce Duncan (Chair – Apples PPG) **(BD)**. Gill Foott (Engagement and Communications Coordinator [PPGs]) **(GF)**; Alex Kimber (Managing Partner) **(AK)**; Roger Marsh (Chair) **(RM)**; Tony Meehan **(TM)**; Vicky Morland (Social Prescriber) **(VM)**;

Apologies: Joan Cooper **(JC)**; Chris Hardy (Chair – Yetminster PPG) **(CH)**; Lizzie Kingsbury (Social Prescriber) **(LK)**; and Maira and Poppy (Sherborne Girls – students);

1. Previous Minutes – 13th.April 2022.

a. Matters arising:

i Review 'View from the Waiting Room' July newsletter article:

It was stated that the article prepared by **(JC)** had been reviewed by **(RC)** and was now included in the forthcoming newsletter. **ACTION: CLOSED**

ii Prepare 'Social Prescriber' article for the July newsletter:

The article had been completed and was now included in the forthcoming newsletter.

ACTION: CLOSED

iii Forward messages to the Practice relating to nursing awards:

(RM) forwarded details to **(AK)** by email on the 14th.April.

ACTION: CLOSED

iv) Arrange meeting of Sherborne Area PCN Patient Group Chairs:

(BD) reported that **(RM)** had reviewed the meeting proposals which had subsequently been forwarded to **(CH)**. A response was awaited from **(CH)**.

ACTION: (CH)

v) Circulate article relating to changes in GP practice:

This action was considered closed on the basis that it referred to the update to the GP contract which had already been raised and discussed at the North Dorset PPG Chairs meeting.

ACTION: CLOSED

vi) Digital Health Champions - raise subject with health champions:

The subject was discussed at the meeting of health champions on the 18th.May and it was agreed to direct people to the Dorset Digital Champions in Sherborne Library as required.

ACTION: CLOSED

2. Practice Update:

(RC) stated that he had recently interviewed 5 candidates for the two positions of specialist mental health workers within the Sherborne Area Primary Care Network (PCN) and offers of employment had been made to two of the candidates to start in August. **ACTION: All to note**

(AK) informed the meeting of further areas of recruitment relating to the Grove Medical Centre itself. Dr. Rebecca Lye who is presently with the Practice will be staying on as GP Registrar. In addition Dr. Aimee Hobbs will be joining the Practice in August along with Dr. Adam Wood who will be starting in September.

Discussion centred around the GP Contract 2022-23 update, with the main point of concern being extended access. This would be contracted as a PCN Direct Enhanced Services (DES)

directive requiring the PCN to extend working hours from 6.30pm to 8pm on weekdays and by introducing Saturday working from 9am to 5pm.

The main issue was staff retention, both clinical and administrative, which may result in a thinner service being provided during the daily core hours in order to cover the extended hours of service.

It was felt that the biggest influence would be the voice of the patients in stating what they want and what can be provided.

The PCN were in the process of devising a patient questionnaire on the subject and a request was made of the PPG to help gain a substantial response from patients. To be meaningful it was felt that a response from a minimum of 1000 patients of the PCN across a broad age range was required.

It was agreed that a copy of the proposed questionnaire would be sent to the PPGs such that the best way of reaching patients could be determined.

ACTION: (RC)

PPG Chairs to determine the range of patients to which the questionnaire should be sent.

ACTION: (RM) (BD) (CH)

Furthermore, it was felt that both PPG members from the PCN and also health champions could help by assisting patients to fill out questionnaires whilst visiting the surgeries.

ACTION: All to note

3. Armed Forces Patient Participation:

(RM) and (VM) gave an update on the last meeting of the group which was held at Manor Court, Newland and was addressed by Andy Price – founder of the Weymouth & Portland Veterans Hub who gave a talk on his work with the hub. The next meeting was scheduled for the 18th. June, again at Manor Court, Newland.

4. Cancer Awareness/Support Group:

It was reported that monthly meetings of the group were continuing to be held at Manor Court, Newland. The meetings were organised by members of Stalbridge Cancer and Recovery Support (SCARS).

5. Sherborne Orienteering Project:

(DB) reported that the project was nearing completion with an intended opening date of the last weekend of July. The next task was to affix the QR code plaques at the various waypoint locations around the courses. It was thought that most participants would download the course maps through an app onto their mobile phones, but those requiring hard copy course maps would be able to borrow them from Sherborne Library, or alternatively from an out of use telephone box maintained by Sherborne Ambassador volunteers.

6. PPG Activities Since Last Meeting:

- 19 April – Orienteering Project Group
- 19 April – Attended STC Meeting
- 30 April – Military Veterans Meeting
- 5 May – ICS Place Based Partnerships Working Group Meeting
- 9 May – STC Meeting
- 11 May – North Dorset PPG Chairs Meeting
- 16 May – Orienteering Project Group
- 17 May - A guide to Integrated Care Partnerships Webinar
- 18 May – Health Champions Meeting

7. Reports:

a) Yeatman Hospital – Friends of the Yeatman Hospital (FOHY):

(TM) provided the meeting with the following update on the activities of the FOYH:

He stated that within the last three months the FOYH had provided funding towards mental health issues including redevelopment of the Steward Wing of the Yeatman Hospital, and support for teachers dealing with mental health issues in the local primary schools. Further funding had also been committed to the Rendezvous as a continuation of the Emotionally

Connected Sherborne project. Also a further £20k has been donated towards the new breast cancer unit at Yeovil District Hospital.

b) Sherborne Town Council (STC):

(RM) stated that he had sent a written report on the year's health related activities and this was presented at the Annual Parish meeting on Monday 25th April.

c) North Dorset PPG Chairs Meeting Update:

(GF) gave an update on the most recent meeting of the group held on the 11th May at which the main part of the meeting was a discussion on the revised GP contract for 2022-23.

d) Health Champions:

(VM) updated the meeting on the projects being undertaken by the health champions:

The first of the Chatty Café/Talking Tables venture in Sherborne, had taken place in The Pear Tree, and this would become a regular event taking place fortnightly on a Monday from 2 to 4pm with the next meeting being held on the 6th June. It was also proposed that a local bereavement group would be set up along similar lines.

Some of the volunteers had resumed the pre-Covid work of a listening ear to individual pupils at the Gryphon School who were experiencing anxiety problems.

The Friday health walks around Sherborne were continuing with around fifteen people walking with the group each week.

The Health Champions Facebook page was being updated to provide more information on local groups that were related to health and wellbeing.

e) CCG PPG Lead Report:

(GF) reported that there had been an improvement with the urgent care issues since the last meeting whereby the hospitals were seeing less bed occupancy. The operational plan was still being worked on and there were still problems whereby some patients were having to wait in excess 104 weeks for treatment, however after June the lengthy wait for treatment should only be for orthodontic patients. Dorset is one of the few areas in the southwest where improvements are being made on the 52 week wait for patient treatment.

The PPG webinar on cyber crime was very successful with over 50 people signing in to take part.

It was planned that the next PPG webinar scheduled for the 13th June would be on the subject of the Dorset Care Record.

f) CCG Public Engagement Group (PEG):

(RM) reported that there had been no meeting since the last PPG meeting, but the next meeting of the group was scheduled for the 1st June.

g) ICS Place Based Working Group:

(RM) reported that he, Ian Gall (Chair of the Surminster Newton & Marnhull PPG) along with Nicky Murdoch MBE (Chair of the Armed Forces Public Patient Voice Group) had been recently recruited to join the working group.

8. PPG Projects:

July Newsletter:

It was reported that (TM) and (RM) had completed the 6-page newsletter with the exception that an update from the Practice was required for the front page. It was agreed that the Practice would produce an update.

ACTION: (RC) & (AK)

9. Apples PPG Update:

(BD) reported that with the retirement of Dr Greg Miles his duties were now shared between the remaining four GPs. The Practice was still as busy as ever. (BD) had recently met with Philippa Cannings (Practice Manager) to find ways of getting more information out to patients to alleviate the time spent by receptionist on phone calls, but progress is slow.

10. Yetminster PPG Update:

In the absence of Chris Hardy (RM) updated the meeting:

The PPG had formally agreed a Terms of Reference as well as agreeing a Code of Conduct. The Practice website now carries information regarding the PPG and the next meeting is scheduled for the 28th.June.

11. Any Other Business:

a) Electronic Repeat Dispensing – Medicine Waste:

(RM) enquired of the Practice about the fact that patients who were on long-term repeat prescriptions and who had a temporary adjustment to their medication before being put back on to their original medication continued to receive excess unwanted medication. This was a cause of medicine waste which was an unnecessary expense. Unfortunately the only avoiding action was for patients to return the unwanted medication to the pharmacy before leaving the building such that it could be returned to stock. Failure to carry this out would result in the medication having to be destroyed.

ACTION: All to note

b) Practice Telephone System:

A patient had asked why the Practice could not employ a feature in the telephone system that informed one at what position they were in the waiting queue. (AK) stated that the internet system employed by the Practice did not include this type of feature, however she would enquire as to its availability.

ACTION: (AK)

c) Dr Matt Phelan – (10 – Day Triathlon achievement):

The meeting reflected on the fantastic achievement of Dr Matt Phelan's completion of 10 Triathalons in 10 days whilst competing in the EPIC DECA challenge 10 Iron Man event in Hawaii. (TM) stated that the forthcoming newsletter carried a whole page recording his achievement.

ACTION: All to note

d) GP Contract Update 2022-23:

(See discussion under Para.2 'Practice Update').

e) Sherborne Area Health & Care Directory – 2022-23:

(RM) reported that he had an offer of funding to produce an update to the 2020 edition of the directory and it was now intended to conduct an update to be published later in the year.

ACTION: All to note

f) Carers Clinics:

A notice had been widely published asking for carers to book in to a clinic for a health check and advice that was run by Sarah Withell. This applied to all patients registered as carers by a practice within the Sherborne Area PCN.

g) General Practice Awards 2022:

(TM) enquired whether we should consider entering a person/group from the Practice. (AK) agreed to give this consideration.

ACTION: (AK)

h) Men's Shed:

(RM) reported that he had been approached by Sherborne Town Council to join a group to explore setting up a 'Men's Shed' within Sherborne. He agreed to share further information on the project at the next meeting.

ACTION: (RM)

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 6th.July 2022 at 5.30pm.

Future Meeting Dates: Wednesday 17th.August 2022

Wednesday 28th.September 2022