

The Grove Patients Group
Sherborne
Minutes
7th.July 2021
5:30pm
(Meeting conducted via 'Zoom')

Present: David Bartle (Vice Chair) **(DB)**; Jane Carling **(JC1)**; Dr Rob Childs **(RC)**; David Crothers **(DC)**; Bruce Duncan (Chair – Apples PPG) **(BD)**; Gill Foott (Engagement and Communications Coordinator [PPGs]) **(GF)**; Tony Gordon **(TG)**; Alex Kimber (Managing Partner) **(AK)**; Roger Marsh (Chair) **(RM)**; Tony Meehan **(TM)**;

Apologies: Joan Cooper **(JC)**; Vicky Morland (Social Prescriber) **(VM)**; Vicky Russell (Social Prescriber) **(VR)**; Arabella and Emily (Sherborne Girls – students).

Resignations: Alan Woodward **(AW)**;

1. Previous Minutes – 26th.May 2021

a. Matters arising:

i Health related project – Sherborne Girls students:

It was agreed that the report entitled 'The Use and Accessibility of eConsult within the 16–17-Year-Old Age Group' produced by the Sherborne Girls students Arabella and Emily should be forwarded to Stephen Slough (NHS Dorset CCG – Portfolio Director – Digitally Transformed Dorset) for consideration. **Action: (RM)**

ii Military Veteran Patients Directory:

It was noted that the draft copy of the directory had been reviewed by (DC), (TG) and Rob Munro (NHS Dorset CCG – Senior Programme Lead) and the recommended revisions made. Furthermore, a PDF of the directory had been forwarded to Dr Sally Dangerfield (Lead GP for Military Veterans – The Grove Medical Centre) for approval and for subsequent inclusion on the Practice website. **Action: (RM)**

It was also agreed that the Grove Medical Centre would print a number of hard copies of the directory for local distribution. **Action: (RM)**

iii Carers Booklet:

70 copies of the carers booklet produced by Carers UK had been obtained and delivered to the surgery for Claire Pound (Carers Lead) on the 7th.June. **Action: CLOSED**

2. Practice Update – AK/RC

a) General Update:

(AK) reported that the Practice was still extraordinarily busy.

Most recently the Practice had advertised for an additional GP on the basis of an increase in future patient numbers.

A vacancy had arisen due to the recent retirement of Carol the Medical Secretary and although the post had been advertised no suitable candidate had been found. There was also a vacancy in the PCN pharmacy team for a pharmacy technician, however, both positions are being re-advertised.

(AK) also stated that the Practice had recently recruited a PCN Operational Manager who will be joining at the end of August to take some of the workload off of the existing PCN Practice Managers. **Action: ALL TO NOTE**

b) Covid-19 Vaccination Update:

(RC) stated that the Covid vaccination clinics run by the Sherborne Area Primary Care Network were now approaching an end and of the 18 Primary Care Networks across Dorset the Sherborne Area PCN was leading with the highest number of patient coverage. Over 90% of patients in cohorts 1 to 10 had received their first vaccination and 80% of patients in those same cohorts had received two doses of the vaccine. It was planned to hold two further clinics to complete the present vaccination programme, however there may be a need for a further small clinic during August.

Regarding a Covid boosted vaccination, plans were still being agreed, but it would probably involve vaccinating the over 50's and those who are clinically vulnerable with a booster at the same time as the flu vaccination. The type of Covid vaccination mix was still under discussion. It was anticipated that it would take another 10 full days of vaccination clinics to complete the programme. **Action: ALL TO NOTE**

3. Armed Forces Patient Participation Involvement Group:

To progress the PPG in establishing an 'Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Club' in Sherborne, as previously reported (TG) had carried out some initial investigation regarding a suitable venue as being the Cross Keys in Sherborne. (RM) stated that both he and (VM) had received expressions of interest from several patients who were military veterans. (DC) asked if the British Legion was involved and (RM) stated that one of the interested people was involved with the British Legion so a link could be formed through him.

It was agreed that a meeting would be set up between (RM); (TG) and (VM) to progress this project. **Action: (RM)**

4. PPG Activities Since Last Meeting:

- Sherborne Town Council – June Meeting
- Sherborne Area – Health Champions
- NHS Dorset CCG – Public Engagement Group
- Friends of the Yeatman Hospital – Executive Committee Meeting
- North Dorset PPG Chairs Meeting
- Our Dorset - Building Health Partnerships across health, care, voluntary and community sector organisations.

5. Reports:

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

(TM) reported on the following:

Recently the trustees of the FOYH had agreed to financially support both the Breast Cancer Unit Appeal by Yeovil District Hospital and also to provide equipment for use by the District Nurses.

He also reported that Roger Marsh had been nominated as a Trustee of the FOYH and he had accepted the post to be confirmed at the forthcoming AGM.

The FOYH website is being updated and it is intended to hold a car boot sale in September which will be the first public fund raising event for nearly two years.

The FOYH have been informed that Sherborne Town Council were revising their representation on outside bodies and as such they will invite updates from various local bodies rather than having a representative sit on a group.

The 26th.July marks the official date of the 70th.Anniversary of the forming of the FOYH and there will be a small reception at the Castle Gardens who have agreed to sponsor the event.

b) **Sherborne Town Council (STC):**

(RM) stated that he attended the June meeting of STC that was held in the Digby Hall. Besides providing support for the monthly PPG report to the Councillors he also updated them on the latest situation regarding the Covid vaccination clinics and spoke about the intention to set up an orienteering course in Sherborne to encourage outdoor healthy activity.

c) **North Dorset PPG Chairs Meeting Update:**

(RM) reported that he had attended the latest meeting held that morning at which Amanda Sadler gave an update on working to support mental health issues in North Dorset. In addition Keith Harrison gave an update on the work locally by social prescribers. The meeting also decided that further discussion was required relating to the new Health and Social Care Bill and its effects on Primary Care Networks.

d) **Health Champions:**

In her absence (VM) had provided the meeting with an update report:

Volunteer support from the Health Champions for the Vaccination Clinics

This had been amazing, and couldn't have run as smoothly without the efforts of volunteers.

Community Fridges

(JC1) had given a progress report – she had produced a flyer for food producers to promote the idea, and applied for a number of different grants. She was still looking for co-ordinators and volunteers. (VM) had asked current volunteer network and also listed on Dorset Volunteer Centre.

Wellbeing walks

These are now running every Friday, at 2pm, from the Paddock Gardens. There are regular attendees and some new people at most sessions. Wet days can mean very low numbers, but on a good day there may be up to 15 people. While there are sufficient walk leaders, it would be useful to have more and the service could then be expanded.

Telephone Friendship Groups

These continue, with two regular weekly sessions and a number of attendees.

Carers Directory

(JC1) had discussed – would like this updated but to include more detailed information regarding local care homes. It was agreed that specific wording should be included.

Sherborne Area Directory for Health and Care

It's been proposed that the Health Champions assist with updating the Directory for 2021. There are about 42 entries that need to be verified and it was hoped that if each Health Champion was able to contact, say, 5 entries then it would be a fairly swift process.

Grove Garden Project

A number of volunteers were helping with the improvement of the garden at the back of the Surgery, for the use of staff and patient groups. Jules Bradburn was helping with the funding of this from the Sherborne Markets profits (which need to be spent on community projects). So far part of the ground had been cleared and they are aiming to create a beautiful, low-maintenance, space with two seating areas and bee-friendly plants.

e) CCG PPG Lead Report:

(GF) gave an update on activities across Dorset. She stated most recently a total of over one million Covid vaccinations had been administered across Dorset and that as of Monday the 5th.July the total stood at 1,015,060 doses. Sadly, in spite of the vaccination programme, there was an increase in Covid cases with 199 cases per 100,000 population in the BCP area and 82 cases per 100,000 in the Dorset Council area, and as at the 5th.July there were 11 admissions in hospital.

It is intended to hold an across Dorset PPG webinar in the 21st.July on the government Health and Social Care Bill and its effects on transferring the CCG into the Integrated Care System. Invitations will be sent out shortly to PPG Chairs and Practice staff.

(RC) Raised the subject of patients wearing facemasks when visiting the Medical Centre once the Government restriction were lifted on the 19th.July. He asked the opinion of the PPG members and the general opinion was that as patients had become used to wearing masks in a medical environment they would voluntarily continue to do so. (GF) agreed to seek the opinion of the CCG on the subject.

Action: (GF)

f) CCG Public Engagement Group (PEG):

(RM) stated that the at the most recent PEG meeting held on the 14th.June 2021 a presentation was made on the subject of the Integrated Care System (ICS) – by the CCG Engagement and Communications Team with members reviewing the presentation material.

In addition there was a presentation on the ICS Digital Workstream update by Stephen Slough (NHS Dorset CCG – Portfolio Director – Digitally Transformed Dorset).

6. PPG Projects:

a) Cancer Awareness:

(RM) reported that he had arranged a meeting with Vikki Andrews (Dorset Macmillan Cancer Information Project Manager) to discuss arrangements for a cancer awareness webinar for patients, PPG members and Health Champions. Full details would be published in the near future. **Action: ALL TO NOTE**

b) Sherborne Orienteering Project:

(RM) reported that he had engaged Sherborne Town Council in the project at their June meeting and (DB) was now taking the project forward.

Regarding funding, in addition to Public Health Dorset promising £500 towards the estimated total of £1,100, an approach had been made to Active Dorset. However further funding would still be required. (TM) suggested that an approach should be made to John Waldie of Sherborne AF Wealth Management Limited who was keen to financially support local community projects. **Action: (DB)**

7. Apples PPG Update:

(BD) reported that The Apples PPG was in a 'reset' position at present. Most recently a newsletter had been produced and distributed that contained some interesting articles on the GP – Patient Data Sharing Opt-out; latest Covid vaccination figures; the reopening of the Minor Injuries Unit; an item on hay fever where patients may mistake the symptoms for Covid; health checks for over 40's; and also an update on the latest staff recruitments.

In addition, (BD) explained that it was intended to hold a face to face meeting of the PPG on the 25th. August with various issues on the agenda such as how the PPG can support the Practice; the local effects of the new Health and Social Care Bill; how to include the non-digitally enabled patients; and future ability of the Practice to meet the needs of increased patient numbers.

8. Any Other Business:

a) Practice Newsletter:

It was agreed to arrange a meeting of the newsletter sub-group in preparation of the next issue. **Action: (RM); (TM); (JC)**

b) Hospital Improvement Project 2:

(RM) stated that a presentation had been made to the Executive Committee of the Friends of the Yeatman Hospital by Chris Lawrence - Service Director of Estates & Facilities at Dorset Health Care University NHS Foundation Trust. It appeared that subsequent to the presentation made to the People and Health Scrutiny Committee of Dorset Council in April, when it was stated that it was planned to create a community hub at the Yeatman Hospital, Government funding for the plan was no longer available and the project had been shelved. **Action: ALL TO NOTE**

c) Health and Social Care White Paper:

(RM) stated that subsequent to the last PPG meeting he had given a presentation to the meeting of the Friends of the Yeatman Hospital on the Health and Social Care White Paper.

d) Carers Directory:

See agenda item 5(d).

e) Yetminster PPG:

(RM) reported that he and (BD) had met with patients from Yetminster on Monday 28th.June to discuss the possibility of setting up a PPG at the Yetminster Health Centre. Subsequently a follow up meeting had been held with the Yetminster Practice to take this forward.

f) The Grove Website:

(RM) requested that the specific wording 'Patient Group' on the Practice website should be revised to read 'Patient Participation Group' as he had on several occasions received notification from the Practice that patients wished to join the PPG. However on investigation it was determined that patients believed they were signing up to become patients of the Practice. It was agreed to liaise with the Practice to get the website amended. **Action (RM)**

g) GP Patient Survey:

(RM) notified the meeting that the results of the annual national GP Patient Survey for 2021 would be issued on the 8th.July. **Action: ALL TO NOTE**

h) Future Projects:

(RM) stated that he would circulate the previous list of future projects for PPG members to prioritise and for members to report back at the August meeting.

Action: All PPG Members

9. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 18th.August 2021 at 5.30 pm. via Zoom video conferencing.

Future meeting dates:

Wednesday 22nd.September 2021

Annual Meeting: Wednesday 27th.October 2021

Wednesday 8th.December 2021