

JOINT PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Weeping Cross Health Centre, Beaconside Health and John Amery Drive Surgery

Minutes of the Meeting held at Weeping Cross on 24th April, 2019

PRESENT: Liz Ashfield, Ann Broadfield, Maggie Brocklebank, Cllr. Ann Edgeller, Gareth Edwards, Barbara Evans, Richard Exton, Margaret Hale, John Moore, Dr. Clare Newell, Ruth Noyes, Lin Russell, Rachel Stokes

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Val Hollins, David Montgomery, Les Overton, Mary Parker, Steve Platts, Jenny Poulton, Angie Reeves, Norman Spearman

PARTNER AND PRACTICE MANAGER UPDATE: RESULTS: Upon being tested the patient would be given a slip of paper telling them when their results would be ready and stating that they will be informed if there is a necessity for it.

PRESCRIPTION SCRIPTS - Gareth had emailed the CCG for guidance as some patients felt that the text was too small to read and that the medicines were not listed alphabetically. There was a computer system that could correct this but it was not compatible with being used over three surgeries.

ONLINE: All practices were meant to have 10% signed up for online; this practice currently had 9%. There will be increased awareness of acting online.

AUDIT: WX was due a Quality audit with Stafford and Surrounds CCG and were due a CQC inspection which might be done over the telephone.

MERGER: The project of merging with the Castlefields was underway and it was hoped that this would take place on 1st October, 2019 although it would take a while to settle everything. The issue of property needed to be settled as Castlefields had a mortgage on their property.

The merger would not mean any redundancies. A new full time site manager for Castlefields had been appointed by the WX practice and had just started work. A new nurse practitioner would be starting in August.

It was hoped that the merger would give patients more choice when it came to appointments as it was hoped to open up appointments over the four sites in time.

LOCALITIES: A new locality network was being looked at comprising of our surgeries, Mill Bank and Gnosall and this would cover approximately 44,000 patients. Funding would come from NHS England to support the network and from July there would be funding for a pharmacist which would be funded 75% by NHS England. In another year it was hoped to employ a social prescriber (a similar role to that of a Community Connector).

WEIGHING MACHINE: A patient had suggested this. The practice had not thought about this before.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – these had been agreed via email.

DPPG AND PATIENT COUNCIL FEEDBACK: CANCER: At the last DPPG meeting there had been a talk on cancer survival and support given by Dr. Campbell, a Macmillan GP facilitator. Dr. Campbell had spoken about the strong links between Macmillan and Cancer UK. Both charities have a lot of advice on their websites including how to detect cancer.

Cancer patients have a better survival rate due to early detection. Alarming statistics show that one out of two people will develop cancer but three out of four are likely to survive for more than 10 years. Whilst this was welcome it did prove a strain on resources as these survivors needed treatment and support.

The importance of screening was emphasised. If a GP suspects cancer he will set his patient onto a cancer pathway. Unfortunately there were a number of patients who did not attend future appointments set up for them

Macmillan is working towards promoting a more appropriate treatment plan for those patients discharged from hospital.

TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER: was finally moving forward and were entering a pre-consultation phase starting in June.

EXTENDED ACCESS SURVEY – we are awaiting a further survey.

NHS APP.: this app should enable patients to check their symptoms, find out if they need help urgently, book and manage appointments at their GP practice, order repeat prescriptions, view their medical record and register as an organ donor. However there was not a great deal known about it yet.

FORMAT OF MEETINGS: It was decided to invite speakers to at least some of the PPG meetings. Topics suggested included bereavement and loss (Lin volunteered to speak on this), dementia, carers and diabetes. Ann B. suggested a diabetes nurse should come to the next meeting and this was agreed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: HEALTH SELECT MEETINGS: Ann E. urged people to attend these meetings.

ELECTIONS: Elections would be held at the July meeting for the positions of Chair, Secretary and two representatives on the DPPG. If anybody wants to stand for election they should contact Liz in advance of the next meeting.

WARFARIN – Ruth raised the problem of blood testing and results for this which meant a lot of difficulty for the patient. She also asked why Stoke had a finger prick test whereas patients in Stafford had to have a full blood test. Liz would take the matter to the next Patient Council meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The venue was changed to Weeping Cross due to staff absences at Beaconside. Ann E. And Rachel gave their apologies in advance.

WEDNESDAY, 31ST JULY AT WEEPING CROSS STARTING AT 6 P.M.