

Willington Medical Practice Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Thursday 20th October 2011

Present:, Beverley Bowman, Joan Burton, Sonya Harlow, Pat Harvey, Sally Lovatt (secretary), Mary Ross, Louise Scheck, Chris Thorne (Chair), Emilie Whitley, Ann Wood

Apologies: Jim Ault, Christine Bould, Dr K Farrell, Janice Heier (treasurer), Margaret Hooley

From the last minutes

PPG Newsletter and Information sheet

It was agreed that after input from all that this should now be circulated. (LS to add some information about the use of locum GP- see below). The information sheet will be condensed to an A5. BB was thanked for the poem which will be included in the newsletter.

Change of Name

It was agreed to keep name PPG in line with national groups. The name PRG seems to be associated with virtual groups and the current requirement for surgeries to engage with the wider population within the practice. It was confirmed that all surgery staff and patients are members of the PPG and can contribute in any way. The email address for comments or suggestions is dco-pct.WillingtonSurgery@nhs.net.

PPG Cluster Group

Suggested date is February/March. No response from NAPP re a speaker.

Toys

AW had not heard any more about toy offer. LS suggested toys in surgery ok at present and there are Health and Safety Issues with toys and books etc.

Bereavement Pack

LS confirmed GPs are aware of packs and they will be used.

Treasurer's report

JH was unable to attend but sent a report. Currently there is £27.43 petty cash, £3034.87 deposit account and £153.04 in current account. Acknowledgement of PPG affiliation to NAPP has been received.

Any Other Business

Jim Ault

The committee were very saddened to hear that JA had been taken ill and it was agreed to send a card

Building Update

The planning application has been approved. There are still issues to be sorted between the developers, Hansons and the GP solicitors and completion is not likely before spring 2013. The building is smaller than anticipated. LS gave an indication of the very strict guidelines for the new building such as washable seating, disposable curtains etc. Most of the current surgery equipment will not go into the new building.

Questionnaire

The committee were asked for their help with the patient questionnaire. This was circulated and any comments should be returned within 14 days to SL or LS. LS advised that the surgery is under strain at present with one GP on long term sick leave, another on bereavement leave and following the departure of one GP. LS asked for comments about DHU (the provider of healthcare at weekends) as it is felt that patients are not using this service but preferring to wait to see their own GP (particularly affecting Monday surgeries). The use of locums at the surgery was also discussed and it was felt that a note about this should be added to the newsletter to ensure that patients understand the need for locums and to reassure patients that the same quality of care would be given.

Help with prescriptions

The Pharmacy deliver prescriptions on Wednesday and Friday and urgent prescriptions as needed. There are occasions when this is not possible and Dr Farrow had recently visited a patient at Findern with no-one to collect her prescription. It was suggested that PPG might be able to set up a register of patients willing to help those house bound patients unable to collect their prescription. EW and PH volunteered to be contacted by the pharmacy if the GP brought a prescription back to the surgery for urgent delivery which they were unable to deliver. Other volunteers will be sought.

Christmas meeting

This will be a 'fuddle' not a formal meeting. Thursday 15th December. 7.30 in the Old School.

Next PPG meeting is Thursday 17th November at 7pm at the Old School. Agenda Items please forward to Sally.

Contact: Sally Lovatt (01283) 702242 (work) (01283) 701960 (home) or sally.lovatt@nhs.net