



Minutes of ASK PPG Meeting Held 26 April 2017 at Whitegate Medical Centre Room 1

Members Present: Susan Stratton (SS)/Jo Booth(JB)/Viv Critchley(VC)/Sue Ransome(SR)/Ann Allen(AA)/John Butler(JCB)/Gavin Quick(GQ)/Mike Wain(MW)/Richard Watkinson/Luan Stewart(LS)/Debbie Preston(DP)

Apologies Received: George Ronson(GR)

Chairs Remarks: AA opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming and made reference to the fact that recently she had discovered that her records showed that the practice had been charged for 3 barium meal treatments for her but she had had only 1. MW said he would check into this.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: These were agreed (SR proposing, JCB seconding).

Matters Arising: Dr Cruz's wife has been helping out on a part time basis which has been of help particularly in providing a woman GP for female patients.

JSB also advised he has now been told he has come off the extensive care service and is back with the practice for medical care.

Practice Update: MW introduced LS to the PPG and advised she was taking up her post of practice manager on a part time basis from 12 May and on a full time basis from June 1. The handover from MW to LS is going well we were told. LS and MW have good communication with each other and this will continue. LS gave a brief recap of her career to date which at present entails her working as practice manager with Halliwell in Bolton, where the PPG is less active than the one at ASK.

We were informed a new GP is joining the practice (Dr Todd who is male).

With regard to the Old Comrades Club MW advised funding available is 40%. The CCG is nervous about the suggestion of increasing rent, particularly given their lack of finances (something common to all CCGs). The total project fund is in the order of £4 million and so £2-5 million needs to be found. The bank is certainly one option but Phil, the person brought into help with funding, is still looking through options. There is no timescale at present and the property is owned by NHS properties and so is not affected by recent rent increases reported in the press.

The intention is still for community services, currently provided by NHS at the hospital, to be considered to be provided in future by local practices. An example of this would be the sexual health matters currently provided by ASK at the Kentmere Drive surgery.

LS took on board the suggestion to contact S King St practice manager to consider our PPG working with theirs given we are looking to share the same building, or possibly joining forces?

ASK Plan 2017 – RW advised current thinking is not necessarily getting people to come to the PPG but to get involved somehow in the practice. A general discussion took place in getting more people involved, and to communicate more with them. This was seen as an ongoing debate.

PPGN Network Update: Again a need to involve people more. It was noted that there are two separate strands. One is matters as they affect the practice (ASK PPG matters) and the other as they affect NHS and Blackpool in general (PPGN matters).

AOB: LS advised she was looking to update the website and also make more use of social media. An example of where this might happen was reference to one of the receptionists, Adam Gee, taking on more responsibility for health awareness topics. As an example promoting Diabetes Week on 12-16 June or Breast screening (date TBA). Anyone wanting to help is advised to contact Adam Gee, both surgeries to be involved.

MW then thanked everyone for their help and enthusiasm over the past 7 years. The PPG in return thanked MW for his contribution over this period.

Date of Next Meeting: 13 June 2017, Whitegate Medical Centre , Room 1 at 6 pm.