

Minutes of the VALLEY MEDICAL CENTRE
PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING
Wednesday 21st September 2016 at 6.30pm

Present: Dr David Baron, Liz Sedgwick – Practice Manager

Patients: Jim Brackenridge, Chris Milnes, Margaret Derbyshire, Judy Pearson, Pauline Naylor, Janet Kszton, Margaret Tatchell, Anne Payne, Biz King

Apologies: Cliff North, Ken Scott, Bev Fretwell, Barbara Horsman

A round of introductions were given.

Minutes of meeting dated 16th March 2016 were agreed and there were no matters arising.

Guests - Jack Dale – Community Support Worker. Jack was welcomed to the meeting and explained his role, aims of keeping people well at home and how to make referrals. He circulated his contact details and has a pigeon hole in the surgery if you want to leave a referral for him.

Guests – Ray and Veronica Hawley – The Hub Food Bank. Ray and Veronica gave us an introduction to the food bank and the work that has been carried out locally over the last three years. They are a registered charity based at the Hub. They have helped many families who have found themselves in difficulty and needing support. They have collection points around the area, including surgeries and the local co-op. The success of these collection points has been hit by the arrival of the new supermarket. The practice agreed to be a collection point once more

The Meeting Room – a new social café is opening soon based at Christ Church. The project co-ordinator will attend next meeting to give information on the new service and its success. It is aimed at reducing social isolation and will be run by local volunteers who have much experience.

Feedback from Sheffield Patient Participation Meeting

Members of the group had been invited to a Sheffield Meeting. Biz attended the meeting which included a presentation on local services and projects that are being aimed at reducing unnecessary costs within the NHS.

National Diabetes Prevention Programme - Sheffield is in the second wave of this programme called Healthier You. The idea is to support those at risk of developing type 2 diabetes through an evidence based behaviour change programme to help individuals reduce the risk of developing the disease.

Neighbourhood Working – the group will be aware that the practice already works closely with the two neighbouring practices of Deepcar and Oughtibridge, more so since the development of GP associations. Nationally and locally practices are encouraged to work together across agencies including Social services and Local authorities. It is hoped this will help save duplication and make for better communication across services. This is very similar to what we already have except we will be renamed Neighbourhoods.

Primary Care Sheffield (PCS) is a new organisation set up by Sheffield GPs and covers the whole of the City. Almost all practices are shareholders including ours. It is hoped that this unification will help ensure the future of General Practice in its current form. PCS have managed the Satellite Units across the city to provide out of hours appointments. These have been geographically quite distant from us at the Northern General. However this service has expanded to include nurse appointments such as Diabetic reviews, wound dressings and ear syringing. This can be useful for some patients. The Northern General hub is now closed but practices could be redirected to either Palgrave Road or Crookes Medical Centre.

Primary Care Support England – The NHS registration, finance and screening departments have been taken over by Capita. This has caused some considerable problems to all practices but we are hopeful this will improve.

Staff Development: The practice continues to support the professional development and ongoing training of its staff. We have an apprentice currently completing her year of Business administration and reception, we have a staff member moving from level 3 NVQ to level 4 NVQ, another in the final year of BA (hons) degree and a nurse working towards the prescribing qualification. The patient group congratulated the Practice team in their commitment to training and development.

Surgery Premises Update: Over the summer the NHS agreed to the new premises. The new Chief Executive of the CCG is keen to support the practice in its efforts to keep services in the community and we are currently working together and moving forward in a more positive manner.

Any other business – Margaret advised that the results from the Health Strategy should be available in the next couple of months. A copy will be circulated to members when it is received.

Date and Time of Next Meeting – March 2017 – date to be determined

Post meeting Note: Thank you for sticking it out through the power cut