

VALLEY MEDICAL CENTRE
Minutes Of Patient Participation Group Meeting
Wednesday 17th July 2013 at 6.30PM

Present

Practice Representative: Dr D Baron, Liz Sedgwick – Practice Manager

Patient Representative: Beryl Downs, Elaine Smith, Cliff North, Jim Brackenridge, Janet Kszton, Margaret Derbyshire, Anne Payne, Judy Pearson

Apologies: Chris Milnes, Jenny Mackinder and Shirley Newnham

Introductions

Dr Baron welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all for coming. A round of introductions was given. Apologies were accepted and the resignation of Denis Haley.

Minutes of meeting dated 17th April 2013

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record and there were no matters arising not covered by the agenda.

GP Associations – Community Support Worker

Liz gave a brief overview of the successful work that Leigh has done since her post began. She has helped people of a variety of ages and not just the elderly. Her assistance has been encouragement of social interaction, assistance with housing and heating. She covers the three practices within the GPA area of Stocksbridge Deepcar and Oughtibridge. The project is funded for a year and we hope it will continue.

Zero Tolerance

The practice has had a couple of incidences of abusive behaviour from patients which is not acceptable. Despite warnings two patients have now been removed from the list.. Staff should not be intimidated at work.

Surgery Security

A further incidence of theft has occurred at the practice. New procedures and security measures are in place to ensure this cannot happen again.

Intercare – First despatch

The first parcel from the surgery has been despatched to Intercare. There are some strict criteria to adhere to as certain items cannot be accepted. The items must be in date. It is to be promoted on the website and information leaflets have been handed out with prescriptions. Pharmacy items handed in at Lloyds have to be destroyed so patients need to be aware that the practice will accept them.

Enhanced Services/Any Qualified Provider

There are changes being implemented to the GP contract nationally. Certain additional services are offered at practices due to the skill and experience of the GP, for example Minor Surgery, Anti coagulation and Coil fitting. It has been suggested that GPs may have to tender for this work in the future, possibly competing with other surgeries and private providers. If unsuccessful these services would no longer

be provided in the practice. This would have a considerable impact on Stocksbridge patients because of its position on the outskirts of Sheffield and proximity to alternative services. It has also been suggested that within the GP associations, one practice could provide specialist services for the others. However this would raise issues of capacity. It has not yet been agreed how these services will be delivered and the group will be informed as soon as possible.

Surgery Development

The plans for a new surgery have been stalled. The budgets haven't been set for NHS England and there seems to be some resistance to the idea. Nationally GPs are encouraged to deliver services closer to the patient's home but the property department want to restrict the premises size to that which only provides the core medical services. There would be less space than currently available. Unfortunately there is no capacity within the current building for additional patients and the potential growth in population with the new housing could not be accommodated. If the practice does not move it will have to close the practice list.

The group suggested approaching the local MP and the Town Council for support with the funding application. The local MP has expressed an interest in visiting local GP practices and has been invited to the surgery as this is close to her office. The difficulties with the restriction of the existing space can then be demonstrated. The practice awaits the next step from NHS England and will update the group when any more information is available.

Any Other Business

Elaine gave the group the very good news that Stocksbridge Leisure Centre has a new lease with the SL4C group. The plan is that the group are hoping to get the dry side open by the Autumn and fundraising towards improvement work on the pool side. There is a family day this weekend raft building.

A further group Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome has developed walks around the area that are available on their website. A link from the surgery website would encourage people to keep active through the summer. Liz is to get the link sorted with Elaine.

Date and Time of Next Meeting Weds 9th October 2013 at 6.30pm