

Minutes PPG Meeting & AGM 14/11/24 11:00am

Present - Anthony Radley, Barry Menear, Nikki Stocks, Roy Gunton, Margaret Gunton, Meg Kennedy, Alex Boyle, Julia Grieve, Judith Marshall, Ben Jancovich, Bob Dickens, Lynn Madwick, Caroline Pinder, Heather Wilson, Fran Handrick, Kirsty McNamara

Apologies - Pat Power

Minutes of last meeting - Approved as read.

Update from the Practice

Appointment System

The appointment system is under pressure due to non-attenders. The wasted time represented by number of appointments missed would clear the current waiting list.

Staffing - There are 2 new doctors and 2 additional Practice Nurses bringing the practice to full strength with a total of 10 doctors 9 of whom are part time, 1 full-time. There are 16,000 patients.

Phone System

The call back option is working well.

Outpatients & X-Ray - X-rays are still unavailable. Alex stressed the importance of a weekly Audiology drop in service for the town. The previous Wednesday service used to be full. Transport is costly, unreliable and not possible for many. Loss of hearing is a major contributing factor to loneliness, isolation and dementia.

Flu/Covid days - A significant number of the population meeting current guidelines were vaccinated on these days. There are no further dates planned however the practice is continuing to vaccinate patients.

Warm Spaces - Nikki reported a growing customer base. About 20 people were served lunch on Veterans Day.

Newsletter- The practice is producing a quarterly newsletter available at the main desk.

Website - The website is currently being updated. Feedback is appreciated.

Park Run - The practice is supporting the Park Run at Centre Vale Park encouraging people to take part , benefitting their physical and mental wellbeing. Julia Grieve asked Anthony to include the Tod Run held on Mondays where different groups run at different speeds. Anthony has contacted the Todmorden Harriers and is also working with Nadia and Active Calderdale.

Food Bank Donations - There is a shopping trolley in the lobby, kindly donated by B&M, for the collection of food and toiletries for the local food bank. Anthony will take the donations to the food bank each week. Thank you Anthony.

Notice Boards - The notice boards throughout the building have been improved and updated. Each board has a heading relating to health issues and groups.

Mental Health - Kirsty informed us there are 2 Mental Health Practitioners within the practice.

Update from PPG

Recent meetings and correspondence (see Annual Report)

AOB

Caroline Pinder asked how the upstairs practice has been integrated into the downstairs practice. Anthony said patients had been transferred on June 28th, 6 months ago, and that generally the transition was complete. He is happy to speak with any patients.

Julia Grieve raised the subject of the recent consultation on cycle lanes in town. Accessible Todmorden and Hebden Bridge and Calderdale Forum are concerned about people with disabilities who cannot hear or see electric bicycles. They are in favour of a hub for mobility scooters with regular bicycles. All levels of health should be prioritised.

Caroline Pinder and Lynn Madgwick stressed the need for statistics to clarify issues and goals. A small group could focus on evidence gathering. For example regarding outpatients consultations information could be gathered as to volume of need. Josh Fenton-Glynn, MP and his researcher Jose will be able to help with this. They will have access to information that we do not. Ben Jancovich said we need to look into what we can afford so that what is needed becomes a realistic proposal.

Alex Boyle said how many people with disabilities are not seeking treatment because it is too hard to get to. People are unable to seek treatment. They are unable to afford a taxi. She knows this happens a lot.

Barry said these issues were discussed at the Adult Health and Scrutiny Board. They agreed there were problems but were not sure what solutions were needed.

AGM

Annual Report - Barry Menear (attached)

Election of officers

Chair - Barry Menear

Vice Chair - Lynn Madwick

Secretary - Judith Marshall

Committee Members - Alex Boyle, Roy Gunton, Margaret Gunton, Julia Grieve, Meg Kennedy, Nikki Stocks

Plans for the year ahead

To meet at different venues such as Calder College (mothers and babies), Age Concern Coffee Morning Wednesday mornings at Central Methodist Church.

It was suggested we start with trying to get Audiology back in the building. Alex thought she could get information on numbers of potential users. Caroline suggested we also include the rest of the valley.

Date of next meeting - Thursday, January 23rd 11:00 am