

Minutes – Patient Group
Wednesday 10th September 2014
7pm, Chalgrove.

Attendees: Ann Reed, Dave Lee, Doreen Hobbs, Roger Beattie, Gill walker, Helen Moss-Black, Jacky Wagstaff, Neil Topping, Peter Grout, Lynn Baker, Marian Davis, Guest: Rachel Bray.

1. Talk by Hendriette Thorn: 'Go Active'

Hendriette Thorn from South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Council came in to talk about 'go active' schemes. The talk was also educational and explained how the go active project was trying to promote healthy life styles and fitness.

2. School children consultation: Dr Rachel Bray

Dr Rachel Bray spoke to the group about the recent project.

A consultation with school pupils ranging from 5 to 11 years took place at Chalgrove school and was regarded by all involved to have been a success.

The report (which is attached to this email, and will be uploaded to the website) has been reviewed and checked by PPG members Lynn Baker and Neil Topping who facilitated the consultation with Rachel.

Julie Quarrell (head teacher) expressed her appreciation of the opportunity for the children to feed into the practice's information gathering. Both she and the children who are members of the school council and took part in the research would like to be kept informed as to how the information generated is used and of any changes that result from it. KH will feed back to Julie Quarrell.

KH discussed the report with the GPs who fully supported this innovative project and was very grateful for the time and effort spent by Julie, Lynn & Neil.

KH to feed back PPG discussions and implement actions as necessary.

Possibility of extending the project to older children at Icknield school in Watlington.

3. PPG locality update meeting: Neil Topping

Neil went through areas that were discussed at the recent locality patient group meeting. In attendance were OCCG representatives and locality patient group members.

Accessibility and waiting times for appointments are a major issue for some practices.

Make better use of practice nurses with specialist training.

Improve GP links with local community services (e.g. children's centres, support groups) which have a significant preventive role in relation to health.

Re-visit the role of health visitors, district nurses, health promotion and health education officers who have previously carried out many functions that GPs now have.

Extend the role of specialist GPs.

Improve public health education for GPs.

Make better use of pharmacies and improve communication between them and general practice.

Provide a single point of contact for housebound people with chronic conditions.

Provide local testing facilities, using new technology, so results are provided more quickly with less disruption for patients.

Regarding the OCCG, this was the opening statement by the representative to SELF members.

"OCCG was undergoing significant reorganisation with staff redundancies and transfers leading to some disruption".

Neil mentioned that a couple of his own contacts in the OCCG had taken voluntary redundancy after 20 years in the NHS.

4. Staff update:

The practice was delighted to announce that they had appointed Michael Preedy as the new practice nurse, replacing nurse Judith who sadly left the practice in July.

Michael was already known to some members of the group, as he has been a district nurse covering the practice area for several years.

5. Flu days:

This years flu clinic days are Tuesday 14th October – Chalgrove & Wednesday 22nd October – Watlington.

Letters will be sent to all eligible patients inviting them to attend either day. Pneumococcal & shingles vaccines (for those eligible) will also be invited.

Several members of the patient group have volunteered to help on flu days by handing out information cards and assisting with patients.

6. New clinical computer system:

We have a new computer system that goes live on Tuesday 4th November. For the first few days appointments will be limited and staff may be slightly slower dealing with tasks as they get used to navigating around the new system.

KH will put notices up advising patients of this.

7. Shirley Brown leaving PPG:

Sadly, Shirley will be leaving as a member of our patient group as she is leaving the area.

Shirley is unsure of timescales, but will remain involved until she relocates.

Shirley currently attends the locality patient group meetings with Neil, so we are looking for a member(s) to take over with this.

There is a meeting in Watlington on Thursday 20th November.

Please contact KH or Neil if this is something you may like to find out about.

8. AOB:

Childrens centre – we discussed the relationship between the children's centre and the practice. Both practices have dedicated areas in the waiting room to promote activities being run by the centre, also that the health visitors (based in Watlington) have a strong association with the centre.

Data sharing – KH reported that the practice has heard nothing more than was discussed at the previous meeting, the data is due to be extracted in the Autumn.

Opt out forms and information can be found here - <http://www.watlington-surgeries.nhs.uk/data-care/#>

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 26th November 2014. 7pm in Watlington