

Patient Participation Group

Thatcham Medical
Practice

Minutes of a meeting of the PPG held on Tuesday 24th January 2023 at Thatcham Medical Practice commencing at 7pm and concluded at 8.11pm.

Present	David Weller (Chairman), Caroline Dyer (Practice Manager), Jenny Marnock, Dr Rudgley, Jackie Wood (Minute Secretary) Helen Easson (Vice Chairman), Gordon Easson (joined meeting at 7.45), Dr Rob Tayton, Hilary Weller, Simon Hollingbery, Emma Batten, Alice Clifton
Apologies	Judith Denny, Jonathan Wilding, Elizabeth Hunt
Next Meeting	AGM Tuesday 4 th April 2023 at 7pm

Item No		Action
1	Welcome	
	The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.00pm and extended a warm welcome to everyone in attendance and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He extended a special welcome to Hannah Elder from the Corn Exchange and Caroline attending her first meeting as Practice Manager	
2	Minutes of the last Meeting	
	The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 22 nd November 2022, having been circulated, signed by the Chairman as a correct record.	
3	Matters Arising from the Minutes	
	None.	
4	Presentation – Corn Exchange – Link to Thrive	
	<p>Hannah Elder from Corn Exchange Newbury provided the meeting with an overview of the Links to Thrive programme. The following points were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Links to Thrive Programme offers a range of creative courses for adults led by professional artists. ● Taking place in a range of locations across the District, these sessions are free to access for participants and currently offered by social prescribing link workers from the A34 and Kennet Primary Care Network (PCN), as well as the West Berkshire Rural and Reading West PCN. ● During the first six months of the pilot phase, we have had 161 referrals and 851 attendances providing vital support and social connection for those attending. ● Current sessions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Singing for Recovery with a focus on wellbeing, this session uses vocal warmups and singing techniques to promote relaxation, as well as singing along to classic songs from a range of genres. This class is suitable for anyone wanting to sing in a relaxed and friendly environment to lift their mood. - Art for Wellbeing: learn new art techniques in a relaxed, friendly, 	

	<p>and sociable atmosphere under the guidance of professional artists and illustrators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative Art Journaling: a chance to reflect and explore using mixed media, mindfulness, and lots of creative fun techniques to produce a private journal just for you. • The programme had received funding from West Berkshire Council • Attendees reported good outcomes and a desire to keep attending the course • Good relationships had been built with partners such as Eight Bells and Time to Talk • Other courses were available to support children including children born in lockdown, to promote mental wellbeing and child development • Funding ended 31st March 2023. Applications were being made to continue the funding. 	
5	Pharmacies in Thatcham	
	Caroline reported that Lloyds Chemist has longer opening hours which is helping with prescription demands. It was mentioned that Pharmacy To U deliveries had been affected by the postage strike. There is still a problem with supplies of antibiotics.	
6	Treasurers Report (Current and Fundraising Accounts)	
	David reported that the balances in the Current Account and Fund-Raising Account are £64 and £1790.77, respectively.	
7	Patient participation Group Annual General meeting	
	<p>It is hoped that the speakers will be;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Alison Foster – The Redevelopment of The Royal Berkshire Hospital. ii. A Practice Paramedic – to be confirmed iii. Dr Tayton - West Berkshire Community Hospital Developments. iv. Dr Rudgley – Practice Report. <p>David and Hilary will be providing refreshments. Gordon with the help of David will coordinate the advertising.</p>	
8	PPG Meeting in May 2023	
	The date for the meeting in May is confirmed as Tuesday 16 th at 7.00pm	
9	Practice Report and Coronavirus Update 24th January 2023	
	<p><u>Caroline's update for the PPG meeting – 24.1.23</u></p> <p>Thank you for the feedback on the mission statement. I am in the process of collating the responses and creating a new one. I will keep you updated.</p> <p><u>Staff Changes.</u></p> <p>Duty team – We are developing a team of acute care practitioners. This will be made of 1-2 GP's, our ANP Darren, 2 Paramedics and 2 Physicians associates. They will be the first line clinicians to take the triage calls and</p>	

either manage the patient over the phone or bring them in to be reviewed. Work ongoing to develop this team, the 2 paramedics start 2nd week in February.

Care coordinator team – Each surgery has a group of frail, at risk patients who may be elderly, have multiple long term conditions or are nearing end of life. These patients need to be on a care plan, we are employing a small team to work closely with the social prescribers to ensure their needs are met.

Rosie Eradhun starts as the clinical care coordinator on March 1st. We have interviewed for the care coordinator admin role today. We hope to make a decision by the end of the week.

Lucy Hill is an addition to the social prescriber team – expertise in palliative care.

Jenny Samuel- Mental health practitioner employed by the PCN who will spend time every week with us. Her expertise is in perinatal mental health – starting in the spring.

We are interviewing for a new admin reception team member – interviews next week.

News.

Northeast Thatcham housing development, there are plans to build 1500 houses by 2035. These patients are likely to be split between ourselves, Burdwood surgery and Chapel Row. We are in discussion with these surgeries on how is best to manage the extra patient numbers. The consultation period (regulation 19) of 6 weeks has begun - 19th Jan – 4.30 and goes to 3rd March. If anyone has any questions or points to raise.

Medical examiner. There have been country wide changes on how the health service manages deaths. All deaths must be examined by a medical examiner. This is quite a big change and will need some education for the staff, we will be planning this in the next few weeks and producing information for the patients.

The Feno Machine has arrived. We will be putting it into practice in the next week or so. Thank you so much for providing the funds for this.

Covid vaccination programme is on hold throughout the country. We can still administer flu and have set up a few small midweek clinics for anyone who hasn't had it yet.

BP clinics are being set up at the weekend for anyone who is due a check – messages will go out.

The notices that were out of place have been changed. I have looked into the TV screen as some of the screen weren't easily read, we need to know which ones specifically but it is hard to change just one.

After the last meeting I was asked to find out how many of our patients we could contact electronically. 90% have mobile access. 61% have email addresses. 9% of our patients are not contactable by electronic means.

10	External Meetings Reports	
	<p>West Berkshire Community Hospital Patient Panel – Minutes of the last meeting held 8th December 2022 were previously circulated. Mr Weller expressed concern at the low attendance of this meeting.</p> <p>West Berkshire Community Hospital – Mr Rob Tayton The development of the Diagnostic Hub at the hospital is progressing. The X-ray department has been completed with new x-ray equipment including the cone CT machine. The MRI building has been put back yet again as legalities have to be completed including signed agreements between the Building Trust and BHFT. With luck it will open by the end of this year. Unfortunately patients will have to continue to travel to the RBH or other hospitals to have specialist MRIs until then and those that need them are usually the most vulnerable.</p> <p>The hospital is considering a new mammography department within the building and a dexascanner for osteoporosis. The building trust is keen to develop these and will offer funds if required.</p>	
11	Purchase of Equipment Update	
	The practice has now purchased a Feno Machine costing £2328. The PPG will be making a contribution toward the costs.	
10	Any Other Business	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gordon requested a meeting with Ayo to discuss ways to help patients with any IT issues they may have when booking appointments. • Alice expressed concerns over how the practice hopes to cope with extras patient in the coming months and years with asylum seekers and the proposed new housing development. Dr Rudgley reassured the meeting that local practices would be working together to discuss all options to deal with this issue. 	
10	Date of Next Meeting	
	<p>The next PPG meeting is the AGM and is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 4th April 2023 commencing at 7pm.</p> <p>In thanking everyone for their attendance and contributions made, the Chairman expressed the hope that all would keep safe and well and declared the meeting closed at 8.11pm.</p>	
	<p>SignedDate.....</p> <p>Chairman</p>	

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