

## **The Calverton Practice: Patients Participation Group (PPG)**

Minutes of a meeting held at the Calverton Practice, St Wilfrid's Square, Calverton on Thursday 3 August 2017 at 2.15 pm.

### **Present**

Audrey Booth  
Margaret Briggs  
Jeff Burgoyne (Chairman)  
Nick Borrett  
Diane Frudd  
Bridget Hall (Practice Manager)  
Chris Jackson  
Susan Kernahan  
Pat Kingston  
Dr Mitesh Patel (GP Registrar)  
Dr Wight (GP Partner)  
Vivien Sadler (Minute taker)

### **1. Welcome, declarations of interest, introductions**

Dr Patel was welcomed to his first meeting.

**2. Apologies for absence were received** from Enid Cox, Fintan Dowling and Lynda Britchford.

### **3. Minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2017 and matters arising**

Jeff referred to the April 2017 meeting when he had asked for nominations for a new Chairman and Vice Chairman. He was pleased to report that Susan had agreed to take over as Chairman providing she could arrange her work commitments around the PPG and associated group meetings. Susan had attended some meetings of the PPG Forum and QIPP Group which are parts of the previous Peoples Council (representatives from each of the 20 Practice PPG groups making up the Nottingham North & East area). Jeff explained that it was important that the Chairman of the PPG should attend these other group meetings to keep in touch with strategic developments within the local health service. Jeff intends to continue as a member of the PPG support the new Chair as Vice Chair and continue to represent Calverton PPG on these and other committees which he regularly attends and report back.

### **4. Practice News**

Bridget introduced Dr. Patel who had joined the Practice that day. He would be holding surgeries two days a week and had an academic placement elsewhere. Dr Jasmine Johnston, GP Registrar, had joined the Practice for 4 months. Two Registrars had left on completion of their placements. Dr Dole, GP Returner, had completed her placement but may return for some sessions. Dr Bahl had

left following the end of her sports medicine placement. Locums will take over some sessions. Drs Cox, Cheeseman, Nara and Fleming will do extra sessions. Dr Bailey is still on sick leave.

It had just been learnt with great regret that Dr Emma Sherwood, GP Partner, would be leaving the practice to have a career break. The remaining partners would be discussing options to fill the vacancy. Dr Patel reported that GP Partners were becoming increasingly difficult to find nationally due to the shortage of GPs as well as the financial commitment and extra work associated with running the practice.

Members noted with concern that the shortage of GPs nationally lead to difficulties filling vacancies. This, along with increasing patient numbers due to new housing, is increasing pressure of work on the existing Doctors.

Bridget described some alternative triage arrangements which aimed to use Doctors' time more efficiently as well as reduce appointment waiting times.

Mary Stansfield, Practice Nurse is leaving and an advertisement had generated several visits and enquiries from candidates. We would like to offer our best wishes to Mary for her services to patients over the last 18 years.

The current phase of building alterations was due to be completed in 4 weeks. There had been some additional unforeseen delays. The toilet for the disabled is usable. The Architect has visited to finalise plans for the Phase 2 extensions which include the reception area and admin space.

The NHS Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) is now live for the Calverton Practice so patients can nominate their local pharmacy to receive electronic prescriptions direct. Bridget described some of the other services available at the practice: e.g. a diagnostic ultrasound scan service is bought in regularly and Travel Clinic assistance.

Dates for flu clinics will be published after mid-August.

## **5. 7-Day opening Survey update**

Members reported the various venues and media where the survey forms had been distributed. Jeff reported that funding for 7-day opening had not yet been determined. The 7-day trial at Rushcliffe had not been well used. There was debate about this as in spite of much publicity very few patients especially workers had taken advantage of the extended hours.

## **7. NNE CCG PPG Groups Forum Report: Chair and Susan Kernahan**

Flu vaccinations were being offered by commercial pharmacies. Bridget said that the Practice encourages patients to be immunised at the clinics as nurses are on hand and patient records can be updated. Although pharmacies should notify GPs of the patients they immunise, the information did not always get through last year. Records showed that 85% of qualifying Calverton patients

were immunised last year. The competition between pharmacies and practices was discussed. Bridget thought that pharmacies were paid more per immunisation than GP practices. Only 5 of the 20 practices (which included Calverton) achieved the NHEngland target of 75% of the qualifying population.

European Antimicrobial Awareness Day would be on 18 November 2017. A recent news report had confused the issue of whether or not a patient should complete a course of antibiotics once they feel better. Dr Patel explained that the study showed limited evidence so advice remains the same as before, to complete the prescribed course. Jeff reported that Rushcliffe PPG Forum member Sue Hill would be sending out information packs to surgeries.

The AGM of the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) will be held on 26 September at 3.30 pm at the Bonington Theatre, Arnold. All PPG members and all members of the public are welcome to attend – free refreshments will be available.

#### **8. NHS England: Items which should not be prescribed in Primary Care**

Susan reported on the national consultation with GPs, the CCG and patients on what medicines should not be available on prescription. Items such as homeopathy, paracetamol, head lice and verruca medication were among those that cost the NHS £190 million per year. GPs are being asked to comment on whether or not medicines should be prescribed for self-limiting conditions. There was a suggestion that the outcomes should add value to health. Dr Patel said that there was already guidance for GPs on what items should not be prescribed. Susan reported that one of the considerations was to stop certain items by statute so GPs had no choice and would therefore not be put under pressure by patients to prescribe.

#### **9. Any other business**

Dr Wight joined the meeting and expressed her sadness that Dr. Sherwood was leaving. As the news had only recently been received discussions were still taking place on how best to proceed and fill the vacancy. A new appointment system is planned to start in October. It would be described in an article in the Calverton Echo.

Jeff suggested a review of the practice website help section.

A Calverton App has been introduced and it was hoped that all self-help groups could be listed.

#### **10. Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 5 October 2017 at 2.15 pm**