

Blue Dykes Patient Participation Group

Minutes of a meeting held at Blue Dykes on Thursday 3rd June 2010

1. Attendance

Verity Shelton, Katie Slack, Ron Butler, Dennis Needham

2. Apologies

Danny Ashley, Jean Slater, Ann Small, Dr George, Chris Fletcher, John Kirby, Wendy Heading

As there were only two members of the PPG in attendance, neither of whom were at the last meeting, it was decided not to agree the minutes this evening but to leave them until the next meeting.

Due to the lack of patient attendance it was decided we would just discuss what has been happening with the Practice during the last month.

The new Community Matron will hopefully be starting in July but will need quite a lot of training. The care coordinator position, that was agreed by the PCT about 18 months ago, has been shelved. This is because the funding that was in place within the PCT has now been removed due to change in government. Money is, and will be, quite tight within the NHS and many planned incentives have been pulled. We are hoping that this position may be re-instated in the future.

The fabric committee is taking shape. Mr Butler and Mr Needham were shown the “new look” admin office, along with the newly decorated self help room which has been prepped ready for the stenciling.

Mr Needham asked why there was so much work being done in the premises when the Practice were re-locating to new premises. VS explained that the Practice were not re-locating now – many factors have been considered when making this decision but it was decided that this would not be the best move for both the Partners and the patients alike. VS also explained that there may be a possibility of the Practice having some space in the new build but this would be used to run specialised clinics.

The Practice have appointed a handyman, Mick, who has a contract for 3 months at 16hrs per week. He will be cleaning round the premises every Monday morning and then spending time during the week within the premises. Because of the changes that have been made within the premises there are many areas that need repairing and freshening up and this will be part of Mick’s remit.

The two receptionists that left earlier this year to do start their nurse training are doing well and are both in their first placement. They both come back occasionally to help us out, keep in touch and earn some much needed extra income. We now have two new receptionists, Lyndsey and Sue, who seem to be settling in well.

VS asked if either Mr Butler or Mr Needham had any questions for the Practice. Mr Needham asked why Blue Dykes no longer prescribed Gaviscon when other Practices did. VS explained that she could not answer that question as she was not medically trained but she would find out and contact him.

We finally discussed how to ensure that future PPG meetings are held with a minimum number of attendees. We thought that we should ask all PPG members to confirm if they are coming or not no later than the day before the meeting. This would give us plenty of time to contact other members to, if necessary, cancel the meeting. It was proposed that if there were 3 or less patients attending the meeting it would be cancelled and re-arranged.

Timing of meetings was also discussed and it was decided that, as there seemed to be no looming issues to discuss, that meetings would be held every 2 months in the future. It was pointed out that the next meeting would then fall in the middle of the summer holidays so it was agreed to delay the next meeting until 2nd September 2010.