

Minutes of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Patient Participation Group for the Tean and Blythe Bridge Surgeries held at Blythe Bridge Primary Care Centre at Noon on Thursday 24th November 2016

Present:- Frank Hopley (Chair), Jane Bentley (Practice Manager), Frank Bentley, Ann Kollar, Pat Shufflebotham, Mrs Thorley (Tardis Practice), David Trigger and Derek Sederman.

1. Apologies had been received from Elizabeth Cooper, Peter Jones and Hazel Walker.
2. The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed.
3. There were no matters arising.
4. Mrs Thorley from the Tardis Practice in Cheadle spoke about their PPG. The Tardis Practice looks after approximately the same number or people as the Tean/Blythe Bridge Practice – just over 6000. She said that they normally had between 7 and 15 people at their PPG meetings and while we all accepted that that was a small number, that necessarily meetings had to be held during working hours. To make a greater impact she talked of their efforts to introduce a “Virtual PPG” through their website. This, of course, entailed getting patients e-mail addresses but they had already got 25 addresses for people who are interested but cannot make meetings during working hours. She said it was a good idea to belong to the NAPP – there was a cost involved. She also said that she thought that there should be a dedicated PPG notice board at the Surgery with a “Rogues Gallery” of the staff at the Surgery and possibly even one for those on the PPG! She also recommended the use of Facebook links to publicise meetings and activities. Use local Council Facebook pages if possible. It was an interesting and useful talk and Jane Bentley and the Chairman thanked Mrs Thorley very much for giving up her time.
5. Jane Bentley then introduced various notices about the Tean/Blythe Bridge Practice. She informed the PPG that Dr Garlapati had left at the end of August and that Dr Sripada has started on the 1st October. She had specializations which complimented the other doctors in the Practice. Dr V Tiguti was helping out with one session a week at the Waterhouses Practice. Dr Sripada would be doing six sessions a week at Tean/Blythe Bridge. The Practice would be advertising for another Partner which they would hope to share with Waterhouses. It was agreed that the Tean/Blythe Bridge Practices were for fortunate to be so well staffed and to be able to offer ease of booking for patients, which in general, meant same day appointments or acceptable booking ahead.
6. Jane Bentley said that Dr V Tiguti had asked whether the PPG could look at the problems associated with the lease of the land for the practice at Blythe Bridge. There is considerable confusion as to the payment of rent and the expected expiry date. The Chairman said he would ask the village Hall Committee Chairman whether he could help. It was pointed out that the ownership details of all land would be available through the Land Registry and further that details would also be in the hand of the appropriate solicitor. It was to some extent finding out the name and address of the solicitor who acted on behalf of the Health Trust at the time of the planning of the Blythe Bridge Primary Care Centre.
7. Jane Bentley said that the Fire Service would be attending the next meeting and The Chairman (Blythe Bridge) and Ann Kollar (Tean) would help in the surgeries with publicity about a month before the next meeting.
8. Jane Bentley said she would look into the possibilities of setting up a Facebook Page for the Tean and Blythe Bridge Practice.
9. The Chairman asked that we look into two particular health problems. The first is Ekbom’s syndrome which is better known as Restless Leg syndrome. He had done some research and produced some pressure pads which could help sufferers. The second was Depression and advertising the various help that is available to sufferers – the use of CPN’s (Community Psychiatric Nurses) and Wellbeing Centres.
10. The meeting ended shortly after 1.00 pm and Jan Bentley said she would select a date for the next meeting and let members know when it was being held.

Signed.....

Date.....