

Garway Medical Practice Patient Participation Group



Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday, 23 May 2018 in Pickering House

PRESENT: Turlogh O'Brien, Odeta Pakalnyte (Healthwatch), Diana Landymore, Marian Kirsner, Genie Stuart-Ranchev, Christopher Penfold, Judy Loncraine, Angela Reeves (Practice Manager)
Deirdre Cordwell (Chair).

APOLOGIES: Andrew Boichat.

INTRODUCTIONS: Deirdre Cordwell (chair) welcomed everyone.

MINUTES of the previous meeting (23 May 2018) were agreed.

REPORT BACK FROM PRACTICE

- REPLACEMENT GP: Angela Reeves reported that Dr. Ahmad had joined the staff as a regular locum on a "getting -to-know-each-other" basis with a view to her eventually becoming a permanent member of the medical staff. Fortuitously, Dr. Ahmad happened to be working late and Angela Reeves was able to introduce her to members who gave her a very warm welcome to the practice.
- PRIMARY CARE GROUP HOMES: Angela Reeves reported on progress in making Garway a key participant in this West London Clinical Commissioning Group initiative which was designed to promote co-operation between GP practices so that the full range of services provided by each practice would be available to all patients. Members expressed their concerns about the confusing nature of the title, Primary Care Group Homes, and Odeta Pakalnyte drew members' attention to the next Healthwatch PPG Network meeting on 8 June at which the speaker would be West London Clinical Commissioning Group Head of Primary Care Strategy and Development, Joe McGale, to talk about how GP practices are changing towards working together to provide more new services for their practice patients. Christopher Penfold undertook to attend the meeting and to report back to members.

SPECIAL MEETING

Following on from discussions at previous meetings about how to involve more patients in the activities of the GPG and to attract more members to the group, discussion then focused on proposals for a SPECIAL MEETING. With much valuable encouragement and input from Odeta Pakalnyte, members settled on MANAGING MEDICATION as the theme. Date was fixed for Wednesday 27th June and Angela Reeves undertook to book Pickering Hall as the venue and for the practice to pay the hire charge. Members discussed ways of publicising the event to patients and

Odeta undertook to approach a pharmacist willing to be the speaker and to design and produce a flyer for the event which would be distributed on waiting room chairs in the days prior to the meeting and emailed out to the membership of the group. Angela Reeves also undertook to access the patient list and communicate with carers by text. Various members volunteered their services to help prepare the venue for the meeting and discussion ended with members feeling upbeat about this new initiative which, it was hoped, would set a precedent for future positive activities by the Group which would be of benefit to the practice and to its patients.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Judy Loncraine raised the issue of smear tests and the fact that regular tests were no longer available for older patients whose medical history would indicate that regular testing would be desirable. She mentioned that when, on her own initiative, she had booked an appointment with the practice nurse for a test, she had been told that it would be necessary for her first to have an appointment with a gynaecological consultant at St Mary's who would then authorise the test. Members expressed the view that this was an obstructive procedure which would both discourage patients from having the test and also involve the NHS in unwarranted bureaucracy and waste of valuable consultants' time. Odeta Pakalnyte undertook to raise the issue with Healthwatch and to report back.

Members thanked Odete Pakalnyte for her attendance and her advice and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

DATE OF NEXT SPECIAL MEETING: "UNDERSTANDING MEDICATION" WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE 2018 AT 6.30PM AT PICKERING HALL.

N.B. I apologise for the fact that these minutes were written from memory whilst I was on holiday and without notes. Please pay close attention to them and to the real possibility that they may contain inaccuracies and omissions which we will have an opportunity to correct at our next meeting on 26th September.

Christopher Penfold (co-chair)