

Kelsall PPG Meeting

Thursday 24 February 2022

held by conference call

Minutes

Present : Caroline Stein (Chair), Alan Bottomley (Vice Chair), Michele Elvin (Secretary), Dr Claire Baker, Jen Bottomley, Nick Kuszniir, Alan and Ann Parsons, Fiona Smith, Lorraine Hammond.

Apologies

Monica Haworth, Julie Johnson.

Minutes & Matters Arising

Accepted.

Caroline welcomed Lorraine Hammond to the PPG. Lorraine is a Trustee of the Wellbeing Hub.

Chair's report

Caroline was very disheartened to hear firstly that out of the 6 PPGs in the Rural Alliance three of them do not have a Chair at present and secondly listening to other Chairs across West Cheshire many of their PPGs do not have a relationship with their doctors or in fact their practice managers. Furthermore, those PPGs don't feel this made a difference.

The Chair noted that in Kelsall we are not in that position and was so grateful for the close relationship we have with our medical team, as we move towards the opening of the new medical centre and Hub, and she feel this relationship will only grow. This therefore seems the best time to try and swell our numbers on the PPG.

Update on the Medical Centre

Claire said there are ongoing issues with using the Old Bank and it is becoming increasingly difficult for staff working out of there due to the lack of waiting areas. However, there are no options currently.

Claire noted that the practice has two members of staff (non-clinical) off with Covid and receptionist on long term sick after an accident.

Dr McCarthy, who has recently joined the practice is settling in well. She was previously at the Village Surgeries Group where she was a salaried GP. She is working Wednesday and Friday at the practice. Claire said she has a wealth of experience and knowledge, and the practice is lucky to have her on the team.

The date for relocating the practice to its new premises is anticipated to be June but is provisional. The doctors are still awaiting the Fulcrum timetable on electrical connections and confirmation of dates from energy and water suppliers.

The "To Let" sign outside the surgery will be updated following the move. Any agreed lease will obviously only take place when they move into the new premises.

Update on Care Community/PPG Chairs

Since the last PPG meeting there has been no other contact with the RA PPGs, Caroline will represent them at the next PCN Meeting in early March. The wider Cheshire West PPG chairs are hoping to meet face to face at the end of March but we are hoping to send out a survey to all Chairs to understand better the morale of these groups.

The CC does not meet again until April but hopefully we will hear about the grant applications we made early in March.

Wellbeing Hub update

We had a site visit 2 weeks ago and the room is starting to take shape, the store room and toilet have walls and the kitchen space is divided off from the room. First fix electrics are in and we were able to make some slight changes in plug positioning. The kitchen units have been chosen. The sun was shining and with the light flooding in the room. It had a lovely feel to it.

We have interviewed 6 candidates for the role of part time manager. We hope to employ someone from April which will give the new person a couple of months before opening to help with the huge amount of organisation that we have to do to be ready.

Photography Competition

Alan and Nick are trying to operate the competition through the website but given the site capacity and file sizes of entries being uploaded there are some difficulties. Lorraine is looking into this.

Alan is suggesting a 1 April start with a closure of entries in mid-May with announcements of the winners in end May.

Claire confirmed the surgery is happy to cover the cost of the Amazon vouchers and that the proposed new closing dates are fine.

Action: Alan to contact Julie directly to get the answers to some other questions about the competition.

PPG Recruitment

Alan, Nick, Caroline and Fiona volunteered to form a sub-group to recruit new volunteers to the PPG. It was noted that we should aim to broaden the demographic of members if possible.

Ideas for advertising were discussed and it was suggested that an article was put in KADRAS either in April (on a different page to the scheduled piece) or in the May edition. There should also be coverage on all social media channels to ensure different demographics were captured. Posters on village noticeboards were also discussed and which noticeboards are the most effective. Outside the school and the playground were preferred as located to capture good footfall.

Action: A sub group meeting to be held on 3 March and report back at next PPG meeting.

Any Other Business

None

Date of next meetings

Next Meeting : on **24 March at 5.00 p.m.** via Microsoft Teams (later cancelled). Any apologies to the Secretary, Michele Elvin. Date of the **following meeting** is **Thursday 21 April**.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 18.10 p.m.