

Kelsall PPG Meeting

Thursday 18 November 2021

held by conference call

Minutes

Present : Caroline Stein (Chair), Alan Bottomley (Vice Chair), Michele Elvin (Secretary), Dr Claire Baker, Julie Johnson, Jen Bottomley, Nick Kuszniir, Alan and Ann Parsons, Rena Gardner, Monica Haworth, Fiona Smith, Davina Crawford-Young.

Minutes & Matters Arising

Accepted.

It was noted that Jane Coleville's name had been incorrectly recorded as Julie in the previous minutes. Apologies to Jane.

Chair's report

Caroline thanked all the volunteers who helped with the flu vaccination clinics, all of which ran smoothly, and the villagers were very impressed with the service.

Update on the Medical Centre

Claire reported that the Medical Centre has appointed a new salaried experienced GP who will start in mid-February who is a good fit with the practice and will be doing 4 half day sessions a week. Claire said there was interest in the new post because of the opportunities of the new medical centre. Dr Daniels is reducing her hours. The GPs at the Medical Centre are also talking to Chester University about training PAs (Physician Assistants), and they are also looking at training medical students and doctors wanting to become GPs.

Claire said the new Medical Centre is not aiming to increase patient numbers and not seeking to increase its market share of patients in the area.

Claire reported that the Covid boosters for the care home have been completed and homebound patients are nearly all done as well.

Julie reported there have been a lot of people leaving office posts in the surgery recently, reflecting a pattern experienced elsewhere, and new people have started, and the medical centre is currently advertising to fill further posts. While the job market is buoyant and they are confident posts will be filled, they will lose experience which effects efficiency in the short term. The loss of staff at the Kelsall Medical Centre has been mostly due to retirement.

Claire reported there is a Parliamentary Inquiry into the Future of General Practice. The NHS and BMA are providing a 3000-word response. All evidence is required to be sent to the inquiry by 14 December. Claire is keen to respond. She noted that while the response needs to be positive in tone, there are some big decisions which GPs have to take because funding systems are difficult and 25-

year leases without breaks mean that surgeries are constantly looking at cost management, e.g. through pharmacy services.

Claire proposed an amateur photographer competition to create art for the walls of the medical centre. The idea was enthusiastically received. It was suggested we'd need a judge and potentially several categories, e.g. under 16, 16-25, 25+, with the competition running from January to March.

Action: a subgroup comprising Nick, Alan, Jen and Lyndsey to be set up.

Alan to approach Lorraine about undertaking the PR.

Claire to send Alan the plan on a page.

Update on Care Community/PPG Chairs

Caroline attended the virtual meeting of all the PPG Chairs in November. Dr Andrew Wilson, clinical chair for NHS Cheshire CCG shared an update on the future of integrated care in Cheshire and Merseyside. This is a major restructure to make the whole system more collaborative. There is some concern that not everything will be in place by 1st April, especially a Chair integrated care system, but PPGs were reassured that the funding to primary care and acute hospitals will not be affected, and that the role of the PPGs will continue.

Ali Wheeler, Director of Transformation ICP talked about the future of engagement and communications in Cheshire West. They are going to use an expert external agency to help create a strategy to improve engagement and communication. PPG representatives will be important in that process to implement the new Model of Care, which is an inverted pyramid with:

Acute Care at the bottom of the pyramid (Hospitals)
Enhanced Community Care (Step up and down beds, Care at Home)
Neighbourhood Care (GP surgeries, Community Care)
Care Communities (range of different groups PPG, Health Watch, PCSOs, Councillors, Charities, Business people, Education) To decide in their area what to prioritise.
Self Help and peer support (Befriending groups, Wellbeing groups, **everything our Hub will be.**)

All of the above is designed to keep the local population healthy for longer, independency in their own homes for longer and out of hospitals and away from GP surgeries.

All 9 Care communities across Cheshire are meeting up in December. Julie has now been appointed as practice manager representative for the Rural Alliance (RA). The RA CC is moving slowly so it will be very interesting to see how the other CCs are progressing.

Topics they are working on:

Bringing the community and resources together
Mental Health, including young people
Focussing on the aging population
Child and Adult obesity
Cardiovascular disease
Teenagers in crisis
Children's health
Social isolation
Family fitness
Respiratory disease
Exercise

Weight

Our CC is concentrating on Loneliness.

The RA Chairs meet last week and discussed the following:

- Implementation of a new IT system called Cerner at the Countess, which has caused problems in primary care. This was a system failure which had not been foreseen, resulting in delayed discharge letters and blood and diagnostic results.
- In August the Tarporley War Memorial Hospital stopped providing in patient care. The decision has now been made that the hospital will close on 31st December. The hospital will become a Hub to provide Care at Home and the PCN is in discussions to be able to use the facility in the future which is very positive.
- Covid Vaccination programme has caused some concerns around care homes and for vulnerable house bound patients. Pharmacy to You have been commissioned to provide this service. Sable Cottage made their own arrangements to get the Covid booster for all patients.
- A nationwide problem with covid booster information not appearing on EMIS and hence the patient's records. This will impact people wanting to travel abroad to certain countries for Christmas.

One of the Tarporley PPGs have just completed a survey of their patients about GP appointments. Across Cheshire West it is thought 60% of appointments are face to face. The survey showed that most patients were happy with the mix of face to face, video and telephone consultations.

A PPG on the Wirral increased the membership of their PPG by the surgery texting random patients to increase interest. This was a successful campaign.

Wellbeing Hub update

Since the last meeting we have had our consultation event and pulled together all the data to help us plan for the future. This information will be submitted with the Lottery bid for a part time manager. We hope to find out if we have been successful or not by the end of the year.

The 4 Teams that were working on the Wellbeing Hub have been disbanded apart from the fundraising Team led by Jen. Following a brainstorming session numerous work streams have been created to prepare for the opening in the spring. Much smaller groups are working together and good progress is being made.

The bi fold doors are in place and we are choosing the units and work surfaces for the kitchen.

The Hub has volunteers for the gardens outside the Hub. An apothecary and sensory garden are preferred. There are some clarifications needed on external responsibilities and the need for list of joint activities for the Hub and surgery, e.g. window cleaning.

Action: Caroline to contact Julie for a date to meet up.

Jen updated the meeting on volunteers. All 64 volunteers have been contacted and there is some concern that only 24 have responded to date. there will be a campaign for more volunteers at the Christmas Fair and an online campaign in the new year.

Any Other Business

None

Date of next meetings

Next Meeting : on **20 January at 5.00 p.m.** via Microsoft Teams. Any apologies to the Secretary, Michele Elvin. Date of the **following meeting** is **Thursday 24 February**.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 18.30 p.m.