**Horsefair Patient Participation Group (PPG)**

Tuesday 7th January 2020

Armitage Surgery

**Attendees :-**

John Brett Dr. Singh

John Marston Nikki Ingram Diane Wallace

June Melsom Dennis Cooper Sara Hands

Pat Winfield Sue Wyke

Gifford Foote Dave Thacker

**Apologies**

None

**Minutes of Last meeting**

These were accepted as a true and correct record.

JM asked if item 4 from this meeting regarding Joint PPG meetings could be discussed again at the next Joint meeting.

**Patient Support**

 It was brought to the attention of one of our members through a discussion with a patient at our

 practice that more support may be needed when patients are diagnosed with Long Term

 Conditions such as Diabetes, smoking, Cholesterol etc. It was asked if we had support groups

 as this particular patient did not get much help from the surgery. It was highlighted that all staff

 have access to Mentor education on the system and could print some information out. Also it is

 our policy that newly diagnosed Diabetics are always seen with a follow up by the Nurse and

 all information is given at this appointment. JB agreed to check that all staff were aware of

 where some information could be sourced. Although, it is felt that information could be

 obtained for the internet or other organisations and posers are displayed in the waiting room.

 It is hoped that future developments with funding and Social Prescribing would help to bridge

 any gaps for patients, particularly those with limited internet access or carers.

**GP’s visits to Care Home**

JM raised an issue that he had read in the press. It was concerning the need for GP’s to have to carry out home visits on a 2 weekly basis in all Care Homes. It was asked about the drain on GP resources if this was the case.

The group were advised that our doctors already carry out this service on a weekly basis. This is because Housebound and Care Home patients are entitled to the same kind of care as others. A lot of work is carried out in Care Homes to try and keep this vulnerable population out of A & E departments and unnecessary hospital admissions.

Horse Fair Practice currently looks after 3 Care Homes within Rugeley along with approximately 100 housebound patients.

**Practice News**

Primary Care Networks

JB provided the PPG with an overview of the emerging PCN in Rugeley.

As previously highlighted PCN’s consist of groups of practices normally of 30,000-50,000 population who on behalf of patients seek to arrange services relevant to their distinct population. Currently Brereton, Aelfgar, Great Haywood, Horsefair and Sandy Lane Practices are workings as a PCN with a combined population of 40,000.

At present there are some discussions going on which may see the above structure slightly altered. The same services will still be on offer and will not affect any patient care or treatment. More information will be passed to the group when meetings have taken place.

**Any Other Business**

1. **Dementia Outreach Staffordshire**

Diane Wallace introduced herself to the group firstly as a patient and secondly as the Dementia Outreach Manager for Staffordshire with Choices Housing.

Diane works in the community in partnership with many other agencies to raise understanding of dementia. The service also offers support to those who are either caring or living with such diagnosis. She delivers training to Police, Fire Service, Schools, Businesses, Faith groups, Medical professionals and man more. The training dispels some of the myths of dementia, offers coping strategies, understanding of symptoms and communication skills. She was working for 3 years in partnership with the County Council CCG care match etc. to win accreditation as a dementia friendly Borough, which Stafford achieved last year. She has now been approached to widen her reach to parts of Staffordshire. She visits people at home to chat and help with the next step and to stop with the feeling of isolation .

Diane has offered her services to the Practice and we look forward to working with her in the future.

1. **Call Centre**

This is looking more like the summer of 2020 now but the group will be kept informed of any developments.

1. **Mental Health Services**

GF asked about the Mental Health Service within the area and what help would be available. The group were informed about the Self-Referral which can be made to the Mental Health Crisis Team around the clock. Patients can also be referred to the Chase Emotional Wellbeing service within Staffordshire and the Cannock area by a GP.

**Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 3rd March 202 – 12.30 pm @ Hillsprings

This will be a joint meeting Horse Fair PRG and Sandy Lane PRG.

Our next meeting for Horse Fair PRG only will be Monday 20th April -12.30 pm @ Hillsprings.

Any items for the agendas to be forwarded to Nikki Ingram either by phoning 01889 571302 or emailing Nichola.ingram@nhs.net at least 3 days before the meeting.