

**PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)
COURT THORN SURGERY (CTS)**

Minutes of meeting on 7th November 2018.

Present

Tony Lainsbury, Margaret Riches, Sally Hardcastle,
Vicky Sant, Bobby Williams, Jennie Sutton, Catherine Robinson.

Apologies

John Poland, Joyce Ousby, Rachael Somerville.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

Matters arising

None.

Practice update

Dr Grainger was present for this item.

He stated that the practice was looking for volunteer drivers (preferably with a 4x4 vehicle) who could be called upon to assist staff in reaching patients who needed vital treatment but who were isolated due to extreme weather. A request had been placed in the latest newsletter.

The introduction of 7 day working(‘extended access to GP services”) in North Cumbria had taken place, with CHOC providing routine booked appointments.

With regard to Dr Anderson’s previous mention of research work, we were now a Sentinel practice, one of 120 in the UK collecting data on certain conditions. This would probably lead to a full surveillance system next year.

Seminar on 20th September - feedback

This had been a successful evening, in two parts - Christy from Hospice at Home on complementary therapies and Dr Dan Berkeley on mental health issues Both speakers had been well received and Bobby read out a message of thanks from Christy.

Tony said he had contacted Dan Berkeley to thank him.

It was tentatively agreed that the next seminar (probably March) should be on local policing issues (something asked for by a number of people). This to be arranged in detail at the next meeting early in 2019.

Future PPG activities

A short meeting had been held on 8th October to meet two volunteers who had expressed interest in telephone contact with the lonely and isolated, or befriending. Another two potential volunteers, Olwyn and Richard joined the current meeting.

Olwyn said that she might be interested in helping with the prescription delivery service and Margaret suggested that as a start she could come along to the surgery on a Friday morning and go out with the drivers.

Richard was interested in helping the lonely/isolated. This was something that the PPG would very much like to set up but there were probably protocols which needed to be observed. Tony and Sally B had been looking at this but so far without any detailed information.

Charity Status

Jennie stated that she had drawn up ground rules for the group should we decide to apply for charity status. These had been run past Mark Costello from Cumbria CVS who felt they were OK, but we would need to set out a brief description of the purposes of the Charity. Jennie circulated a draft of this to those present. There was a fair amount of helpful information on the Charity Commission website.

It was agreed that as a group we now needed to decide whether or not we should apply for charity status. A formal proposal should be put to all members at the next meeting, and a vote taken. Hopefully as many members as possible would attend, but anyone who could not would be free to decide via Email.

Any other business

Jennie stated that the public were being consulted on a draft plan - the Joint Cumbria Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019-2029 which was being led by the County Council. She circulated details posted on the Cumbria Crack website. However the best that could be said was that the strategy did not appear to offer anything new.

Members of the group would be able to respond as individuals, but it was felt that the group itself should have its say. Jennie offered to draft a response and circulate it for comment.

Next meeting: Wednesday 16th January 2019, at 1pm.

