



The Meads Patient Participation Group

Minutes of the PPG Committee Meeting held online on Wednesday 12th November 2020 at 1pm

Present: Peter Griggs (Chair), Jenny Eadon (Vice-chair), Merrill Plowman (Sec.) Caroline Penman, Trevor Nash.

Ian and Carol Muldoon attended without camera access.

Also attending: Rachel Slack (SMSK Partnership representative) – attended for her presentation only.

Charlotte Luck (Practice Manager) Chrissy Montgomery (reception supervisor)

Apologies: Gabriella Patterson Griggs

Presentation by Rachel Slack, Sussex MSK Partnership East representative.

RS explained the function of the SMSK service and how it is set up.

SMSKPE co-ordinates MSK (musculoskeletal) care across the board for East Sussex. It is commissioned by the CCG and covers all services including physiotherapy, primary care, advanced practitioners and consultant referrals. The first contact is in Primary Care with a qualified SMSK person available at the GP surgery to assess the patient and determine the pathway needed for the patient's treatment. Appointments will be available to be booked for a specific day/time during the week for each practice and the SMSK staff member will be shared by the PCN group of practices.

The aim is to get the patient on the right path in the most efficient way and to avoid lengthy delays in co-ordination of treatment and referrals.

Practice report (CL)

Covid immunisation programme. This is under discussion at present with a view to how it will work in practice across the local area. It is anticipated that there will be a central hub for the immunisations to be rolled out on a timetable recommended by government guide-lines .

If selected as the hub for our area, the Meads surgery is ready to carry out the required programme of immunisations. This would run alongside the practice's normal services.

Flu Immunisation programme. The flu programme has worked well with very positive feedback from patients on the organisation and smooth running of the clinics. There has been a good take up of immunisations with 2,100 given so far. There are still 350 patients in the "at risk" category on the Practice's list who have not yet responded. They are being followed up by telephone to encourage them to be immunised. When this has been completed, subject to the practice being able to obtain the vaccine requested from the suppliers, the category 50-64 year olds can be immunised.

Routine GP telephone appointments can now be pre-booked online by the patient.

Non urgent minor surgery is currently on hold with a waiting list, but Contraceptive procedures, smear tests etc are still being carried out.

Two new clerical staff and an extra nurse are in the pipeline for expanding the staffing at the Meads to cope with increased needs.

Proposed merger of hospital trusts BSUH and WSHFT . A patient survey has now closed, regarding the merger of these two Sussex NHS trusts. MP had concerns about continuity of care which she has expressed in her reply to the survey.

Christmas tree festival. The annual festival which takes place in Holy Cross church, Uckfield, will not take place this year but is to be replaced by a virtual Festival being released online on Saturday 5th December. The Meads decided not to take part this year but will do so if the festival returns live next year.

Self Care Week 16th November.

CP prepared and circulated a detailed document to the committee, prior to this meeting, itemising ways to self- care which could be forwarded to patients via a PPG newsletter. This was approved by the committee and will be checked and approved by CL and Dr Duckworth before being circulated to patients. **ACTION** CL, AD, PG

HWPPG Forum Chairman Richard Hallet has taken over as chairman of the newly reformed High Weald PPG Forum of PPGs. Caroline Penman is the Vice Chair. Richard has just collated a questionnaire sent to PPG representatives and will be circulating a report in due course. He hopes to continue a connection with the CCG but slow moving so far.

N.A.P.P. has recently updated its charitable status to CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation). (See NAPP E-bulletin No. 158, Oct. 2020) Our membership of NAPP expires at the end of December. It was agreed to continue our membership for the coming year. **ACTION** MP to arrange membership renewal.

PPG support of the Practice. It was asked in what way the PPG committee might support the Practice both practically e.g. helping with the running of immunisation clinics, as was done with managing car parking for the flu clinics. Also fund raising for specific requirements.

ACTION IM to contact PG ref fundraising

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. To be decided.

The meeting ended at 2pm