

Belford Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

Minutes

Wednesday, 25 January, 2017 at 2.00pm

In St Mary's Church Gallery, Belford,

- 1. Apologies:** Fiona Reed, Joy Palmer Cooper JPC, Judy Brown, Geoff O'Connell GOC, Sheena Trotter, Elaine Robertson, Lorraine Douglas LD
- 2. Present:** Rosemary Ellis RE, Anne Gladstone AG, Marjorie Turner MT, Dennis Cromarty DC, Stuart Robertson SR, Dr Emma Miller EM, Brenda Stanton BS
- 3. Resignation:** Jane Karthaus
- 4. Minutes of last meeting** – draft minutes 1 November, 2016: circulated by e mail.

JPC had given apologies in advance of the meeting but these were not recorded.

5. Matters arising:

Dentistry in Belford RE – Previously GOC had raised this issue and asked PPG to support Dentist. Agreed that it was appropriate to support this since it could affect the health of patients in the Practice. RE had spoken to Dentist and confirmed that he had spoken to British Dental Association and had asked for a change in contract, so that he could extend his Practice. RE had offered PPG support and were happy to write in support of any further approaches made to any organisation by the dentist.

Flu jabs RE – This issue had been raised at the previous meeting, following discussion at CCG locality meeting, but not recorded. RE had written to Berwick Advertiser, (BA), and Northumberland Gazette, after consultation with Practice, to voice concerns about patients having Flu jabs at pharmacies

instead of at the Practice where they were known. There had been two responses in BA from a pharmacist and the CEO of North of Tyne Local Pharmaceutical Committee – both suggesting that RE did not have correct information. RE had written a second letter in response but had decided not to send it.

EM confirmed that Practice had a good working relationship with local Pharmacists and suggested inviting Andrew Booth, pharmacist in Belford, to a meeting. She thanked RE for time and effort and said the Practice would advertise importance of attending surgery for flu jabs before the next session.

6. Update from Practice: EM

Dr Gill is retiring at the end of April. There will be a box in reception for patients to leave messages for him.

Dr Caitlin Longster will work three days instead of one to cover Dr Gill's surgeries. Staff changes will be notified to patients in newsletters, notices and website as well as Practice brochure.

(FYI Advance notice: BS has asked Dr Julia Barth to attend the next meeting of the PPG at Belford and hopes Dr Caitlin Longster will also attend.)

'Private services' discussed at the last meeting will not be progressing for various reasons.

7. New computer system at Practice EM Practice is updating to a new clinical system used across Northumberland; the staff were receiving training and it was hoped there would be a seamless transition.

Group congratulated LD for informing patients in advance of changes.

8. Clinical Commissioning Group Locality meetings:

AG will represent the group at the next meeting 23 March at Bondgate Practice.

MT will represent the group at the next meeting 22 June

Representation at the next meetings – 21 September and 14 December will be decided at a future PPG meeting.

Draft Action Points and additional papers from the last CCG locality meeting, including information about Rothbury Hospital, were forwarded by email in December

- 9. Health and Care services:** AG had attended a meeting in Belford at Bellview which was poorly attended probably due to poor publicity. In summary, the meeting was about an integrated service between health and social care being piloted in Northumberland. AG's notes will be circulated with minutes.

- 10.BMEF:** next meeting 8 February 2017

(FYI: BS and AG attended; minutes attached)

- 11.AOB:**

Carers Northumberland BS to arrange for next meeting

(FYI: BS has arranged for Margaret Todd to attend the next meeting at Seahouses.)

- 12. Date of next meeting:** 21 March at Seahouses at 2pm