

Bingham PPG Minutes – Tuesday 5 September 2023 2.00 pm

Present: Judith, Martin, Andrea, Denise (Practice Team Leader), Laura (Social Prescriber), Yvonne, Janet, Chandra, Sally Bates (Chair, Cotgrave PPG), Jon Herman (Business Manager),

Apologies: Lorna, Helen

1. Patient letter

Jon Herman attended the meeting to talk through in some detail a letter to patients which will be shown on the Practice website and on the Facebook page. Paper copies will also be available in the Practice.

The main change will be that routine appointments will be able to be booked at any time during the day to avoid the rush of calls at 10.30 and appointments will be available up to 6 weeks in advance. GP surgeries are encouraged not to ask patients to call back at a later time or date. The letter also reminds patients that appointments can be booked online and that appointments are available within Rushcliffe in the evenings and at weekends.

Following discussion within the Practice, doctors are slightly changing their clinic times and each doctor will either deal with urgent or routine appointments within one clinic, as it is felt this will give a better service to patients. It is also felt that the existing clinic times have sometimes been a barrier when trying to recruit new staff.

New technology is constantly being developed in conjunction with the Primary Care Network to improve patient service. One of the new areas is that the surgery will be able to text a patient with a link to enable them to make an appointment for a blood test, thus avoiding a phone call from the surgery.

2. Flu and Covid clinics

Clinics have been arranged for the following dates and times

Saturday 30 September at Bingham 8.00 – 2.00

Saturday 7 October at Cotgrave 8.00 – 2.00

Saturday 14 October at Bingham 8.00 – 2.00

Tuesday 17 October at Cotgrave 2.00 – 6.00

The two vaccinations will be done at the time and all eligible patients will be invited within the next few days.

PPG members who are able to help on any of those dates are asked to contact Denise at the surgery to enable her to draw up a rota.

3. Social prescribing.

Rushcliffe is currently running a trial of small group sessions for specific groups of patients with similar diagnoses in order to give general advice and support. This is also an opportunity to remind patients and carers to use the PCN website at rushcliffehealth.org, which has lots of information about all the services available within Rushcliffe.

4. Future plans and joint working with Cotgrave and Cropwell PPGs:

Sally had been invited to the meeting to discuss Bingham PPG joining with the PPGs from the other two surgeries within Belvoir Health Group. She briefly outlined that the priority of all the PPGs should be to help the Practice community and to help the surgery to fulfil this, as well as keeping up to date with the changes affecting GP surgeries nationally. She confirmed that Bingham PPG would be welcome to join the meetings which Cotgrave and Cropwell Bishop hold but that this was a decision for the Bingham PPG to make.

Sally then left the meeting and after a brief discussion it was decided that Bingham PPG would meet again in a few weeks to come to a decision about this and to move forward with whatever was agreed.

In the meantime Bingham members are invited to the next meeting at Cotgrave surgery on 19th September 2-4pm.

5. Date of next meeting:

24th October 2023 at 3.00pm at Bingham Medical Practice