

Hanscombe House (HH) PPG Notes 1st September 2021, 6.00pm, via zoom

Present: Dr Oates, Sally Freeman, Veronica Fraser (Acting Chair), Kristina Lawson (note taker), Frances Lewis, Rachel Garill and Mary Brady (from item 3),

Apologies: Stella Saggars, Michael & Ann Nottage (see below), Sarajane Marchant, Alison Anderson, Louise Harris

1. Welcome and introductions

Veronica chaired the meeting and Kristina took the notes.

All were welcomed, including new member Rachel Garill.

Thanks were given to Michael and Ann Nottage who have decided not to continue attending the group's zoom meetings.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

Notes of the meeting held on 23rd June were agreed and have been approved by Hanscombe House.

3. Matters Arising

Following previous discussion on this topic, Veronica will liaise with Mary Brady regarding the subject of s106 funding for GP provision for new housing, particularly the Sele Farm development (Croudace Homes). If there is no further information, a Freedom of Information (Fol) request will be made to East Herts District Council.

4. Hanscombe House Practice Report

Sally Freeman circulated copies of the Practice Report in advance of the meeting. A copy is available in the PPG area of the website. Items of particular interest include the current status of flu jabs and covid boosters and how patients would be notified. At the time of the meeting it had not been decided if the two vaccinations would be given at the same session.

Commercial pharmacies are already able to offer flu jabs but Hanscombe House and the other surgeries will be offering them to the eligible groups by the end of September. GP surgeries receive payment for each patient who receives the jab via their surgery.

The roll-out of the patient data sharing programme (GDPR) has been delayed. Patients can still opt out if they wish. See the September Practice Report on the website.

There is no confirmation yet of a return date for Dr Waddington.

East Herts will be allocated four Afghan families. It is hoped that these can be shared amongst the GP Practices.

The Bircherley Green surgery will be going ahead and scheduled to open in Autumn 2023. Some doubt was expressed as to whether it has been confirmed that this will be occupied by Wallace House.

Sally clarified that the Hanscombe House email address which is used to send to patients should say it is 'Do Not Reply'.

A member asked whether GP Practices will need to get involved in vaccine passports. No, the NHS app (not the NHS covid app) stores this information and a paper passport can be downloaded.

A question was also raised about use of AccurX. Patients should start by accessing eConsult and a link will provide access to AccurX (for sending confidential information such as photographs) if required.

5. PPG Membership

Rachel Garrill has joined as the latest member of the Group.

More members, from diverse backgrounds, would be very welcome. **Action: ALL**

6. PPG web pages and Patient Newsletter

The September newsletter is now on the Practice website.

The meeting discussed the possibility of including a paragraph about accessing flu jabs at the Practice rather than at commercial pharmacies. **Action: VF, SF**

7. Cancel out Cancer

Another Cancel Out Cancer session will be scheduled shortly. It is hoped that everyone will be able to attend.

www.enhertscq.nhs.uk/cancel-out-cancer

Action: VF, SF

8. Social Media

Sally reported that the Practice is open to having a PPG managed Facebook account if it is carefully planned and handled. More details are in the Practice Report.

Veronica said that she is prepared to give the necessary commitment to this.

9. Future Meetings

It is not yet possible to meet face to face in the Surgery. This PPG would be interested in making use of a Zoom or MS Teams licence if this can be achieved through the Primary Care Network (PCN). A mixture of face to face and virtual meetings is likely to be the way forward.

The next meeting will be on **19th October, at 6.00pm**