

Haughton Thornley Medical Centres

Patient Participation Group

Minutes of Meeting held on 24th April, 2018

Present: Ingrid Brindle (Chair), Cathy Dobson (Secretary), Kath Mills, Yvonne Bennett, Catherine Collingwood, Glenys Mottram, Don Hunter, David Dickinson, Dr Hannan, Dominic Sexton, Wendy Povey, Dr Gutteridge, Harry Newman, Sandra Jackson, Mary Goodliff, Olive Harper, Sue O'Connor

Apologies: Cath Shaw, Moya Berry, Eric Bynon

1. The minutes were accepted.
2. Matters arising
 - a. Time to Talk. Glenys reminded us about the social inclusion group for people with, or at risk of, depression and loneliness. They now have use of the Health Promotion Room at Thornley House on the third Tuesday of every month starting on 15th May from 10.00 to 11.30. All are welcome. Glenys gave out some leaflets and posters. Next week there will be a similar drop in centre starting at the Community Centre at Gee Cross, also on Tuesday mornings.
They are interested in linking with other groups to share information and ideas. Glenys asked if a GP would be interested in getting involved with them for Mental Health Awareness Day on October 6th. Dr Hannan expressed interest.
 - b. English as a Second Language courses – Ingrid has been working with Shafia and Rehana from Diversity Matters to see how to provide a service to help people access health services without any funding to help.
She is hoping to work with the college to do this.
She reminded the group about the help that is being offered a Diversity Matters on alternate Fridays from 4 till 5. (May 11th and 25th, June 22nd and 29th).
It was suggested that those who have already completed ESOL courses might recommend friends to book themselves onto sessions via Diversity Matters.
The workshops are available to all members of the community.
Approximately 1000 of the 1500 Bengali speakers at the practice have already signed up for records access so Dr Hannan estimated that maybe 50 families (parents and children) have yet to do so.
3. Wendy is leaving on Thursday 26th April.
She has been a great support to the PPG.
We're looking forward to working with Deb and new business manager, Adam.
Don said a few heartfelt words and presented Wendy with a real live (model) rhinoceros, which he had made as a gift from us all and which Wendy passed around for all to admire.
Ingrid also gave Wendy a card that she'd made herself.
4. The next neighbourhood PPG group meeting will be on May 22nd. At the last one there were 5 attendees from Brooke and only Ingrid from Haughton Thornley so if anyone else wants to go along they will be most welcome!

5. Sandra talked about Ambition for Ageing, which is now in its third of five lottery funded years. Their purpose is to work with groups particularly targeting over 50's to encourage social participation and get communities connected.

They work in three areas of Tameside – Hyde Newton, Denton South and Ashton Waterloo, which are areas chosen because people there are more likely to be socially isolated.

Any group working in the community can apply to them for funding.

Sandra also talked about 'social prescribers' who can help individuals to access opportunities that will help them to improve their wellbeing and health. Referrals are often from GPs but can come from anywhere.

This gave David the chance to talk to us again about Pickleball, which he has set up in Ashton and which he is hoping to spread more widely if he can find appropriate premises.

To find out more about the achievements of Ambition for Ageing go to YouTube and search for Ambition for Ageing Tameside.

6. Chair's report.

Ingrid wanted us to know about the work she does on behalf of the PPG and other patients in the community. She says it keeps her very busy & she doesn't think she has room for much more . . .

A particular interest of hers at the moment is the device for detecting atrial fibrillation which can be loaned to patients to take home with them. There have been some complications particularly around getting the data from the device to the practice, but these are nearly resolved.

7. Practice Matters

- a. Kath talked about a news report that she'd seen where a practice in Hazel Grove uses Skype for GP consultations.

There was some scepticism about whether this is being used as fully as was reported.

Although it was felt that the concept is a good one there were doubts expressed around whether Skype is the right technology and whether the culture is right for this kind of patient/doctor interaction.

Dt Hannan reported that care homes are able to use technology to record observations and have face to face consultations, which has greatly reduced the time required for GPs to make visits, and also reduced A&E attendance of care home residents.

Dr Gutteridge expressed concern about two tier systems whether the tech-savvy are able to get the service while those who prefer not to use computers are left behind. However, she reassured us that we can still use the phone to make appointments.

There was some discussion about whether there is enough investment in new developments that could make accessing health care easier in future.

This led to the group talking about how people should be encouraged to find ways to help themselves where their problems are not obviously medical.

- b. Prescriptions.

There was a question about why printed prescriptions might include different types of information, e.g. one might have a 'last issued' date and another doesn't.

Wendy thought this might be to do with individual PC settings and said she'd find out before she left!

8. Feedback from teams.
 - a. There will be an open day on Saturday June 9th with lots going on, not only our usual medication passports, food smart app demonstrations, etc, but also input from the CCG.
The group thought that 'Wellness Festivals' would be a good idea.
 - b. David has met a consultant orthopaedic surgeon from Salford Royal and was able to talk about his 'online club' that can be used by patients referred by their GPs who need to be given exercises to prevent future back problems.
Also about preventative action: Active Tameside are attending clinics to encourage patients to engage in activity to increase fitness before undergoing surgery.
Also the recent event about looking after your legs was apparently well worth attending, and hopefully will be repeated.
9. Before the meeting finished Wendy thanked Ingrid and the doctors for running and attending the PPG meetings.
10. Next Haughton Thornley PPG meeting will be May 29th and then July 17th.

Please send comments, suggestions or apologies to htmcppg@gmail.com and thank you for being involved in the Haughton Thornley PPG.