

PPG MEETING 1st JULY 2014

PRESENT: Pat Lunn, Chair
David Walker, Sue Bull, John Riley, Wendy Riley, Judith Clay,
Pat Miller, Dan Zamoyski, Shaun Snow, Sandra Watkiss, Alan
Piggott,
Nick Derbyshire, Practice Manager
Nicola Turner – Reception/Secretary - Minutes

Apologies:
Andrew and Eileen Clarke, Heather Swindell

David Walker

Congratulations to David Walker who has been awarded an OBE for services to disabled people.

Derbyshire Health United Presentation

Judith Brown, Relationship Manager from Derbyshire Health United gave a presentation in respect of the 111 service. The 111 Service is a non-emergency Service which also covers Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicester. All the calls are free of charge. The system is set up to mainly cover surgery closures from 6.30pm to 8.00am, weekends and Bank Holidays but can be accessed during other hours for non-emergency issues. Unfortunately the 111 service does not have ambulance priority. Further details were provided via a powerpoint presentation

It was suggested that the members of the meeting 'spread the word' in respect of the 111 Service. There has been a lot of communication, TV/Media etc. over the past twelve months in respect of this service.

Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed and Accepted

BMA/RCGP Campaigns re the future of General Practice Update re Practice Appointment System

ND explained that the demands and resources on GP services are growing out of proportion and if this continues the NHS will be slowly and steadily privatised. Many of the demands put on GPs are unrealistic and is not safe practice. New GPs are not coming through - 50% of places not filled for the Chesterfield GP trainee programme from August of this year. When GPs retire there are fewer and fewer GPs to replace them. The cost of buying into a surgery as a partner is often too restrictive, especially where premises are involved as part of the transaction and many new GPs do not want such a commitment. Profits are falling-and there has been no rise in funding in the GP's core contract since 2004 and accounts do not encourage GPs to buy into a Practice. Being a salaried GP gives them the option to move on. GPs are retiring earlier due to the demands and pressure put on them.

It was suggested that BMC run their pharmacy and this has been investigated in the past with significant sums invested to pursue this, but our application was declined initially and on appeal.

ND explained that our appointment system had changed; the GPs now triage (phone back) all calls from patients who require an appointment but cannot get one each day. The GP can then allocate an appointment if the patient needs to be seen that day. The GP assesses the patient's needs – many patients demanding to be seen do not need to be. There has been 40% increase in workload over the last 5 years and less money. The service nationally and locally is at crisis level and there is a real risk that GPs will 'burn out'.

ND asked the PPG members to support the GPs. He handed each member a petition and asked for their support in getting as many signatures as possible. The petition will go to the Prime Minister.

WR queried whether having open surgeries each day could be re-considered. ND explained that some patients need to understand and consider whether an appointment with a GP is really necessary - we regularly have patients attend with very minor problems which can be self-medicated and they do not always need an appointment.

If a patient needs to speak to a specific Dr re ongoing care or they feel more comfortable with a certain Dr, the patient can be put on the on call list and speak to the on-call Dr and if this Dr feels it is more appropriate that the patient speaks to a specific Dr then he/she can assign the patient to the specific Dr requested.

Any Other Business

PPG Network

The next meeting scheduled for 22.7.14 has now been postponed.

De-Fib machines in Bakewell

JR questioned where the De-Fib machines were in Bakewell. First Responders should be called.

Prescriptions

WR enquired about repeat prescriptions and if only selected items were ordered why was she supplied with meds she had not requested. ND said he was not sure why this should happen but would appreciate an example next time it occurred.

Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 2nd September 2014