

Minutes of the KEY Patient Participation Group Meeting

Wednesday 19th April 2023 at 7.00pm at Yarnton

Attendees

(GL) – Chair/patient (K)

(CR) – Treasurer/patient (K)

(AC) – Secretary/patient (K)

(JH) – Vice chair/patient (Y)

(AK) – Patient (Y)

(AP) – Patient (K)

(AG) – Patient (K)

(PM) – Patient (K)

Kathryn Muddle (KM) – Practice Manager

Dr Simon Tucker (ST) – GP Partner

(K) – Kidlington Surgery (Y) – Yarnton Surgery

1. Welcome and Apologies

GL welcomed everyone to the meeting

Apologies received from TS, MJ, FL, PH, MC.

2. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from previous meeting were agreed.

3. Chairperson's update

Nothing to report.

4. Secretary's update

Welcome to PM who has joined the PPG. No communications via Gmail account.

5. Treasurer's update

Invoices for the Kidlington cycle racks (£2,358) and resuscitation manikins (£1,642) have been paid since the last meeting. Account has gained £78 interest credit.

6. a) Practice update

Dr Tucker advised that GP availability is under serious pressure affecting availability of GPs due to the cumulative effects of Dr Finnigan's semi-retirement, Dr Downes leaving, Dr Graham retiring, Dr May reducing hours and Dr Mathi on sick leave following serious illness.

Even by offering a cash incentive bonus, it has still been impossible to recruit more GPs. Consequently much use is being made of Locum GPs (who are self-employed rather than agency workers). Locums are able to charge higher rates for their in-demand services, can choose their own work hours and have fewer responsibilities e.g. follow-up work is down to Practice GPs. So there is no incentive for them to join the Practice as full-time employees.

Also:

- Two Registrar GPs, Dr Daniele Saville-Tucker and Dr Rachel McVea are currently undertaking their Practice training under the supervision of Dr Simon Tucker and Dr Pritchard.
- The number of patient sessions per week was once 55, it is now down to 40. This is 17 sessions below the ideal availability.
- Clinical Pharmacists are also difficult to recruit.
- Positive news is that Reception staffing levels are good; although in one recent week were down to three staff due to Covid.
- Covid boosters are being offered to over-75s first, followed by the immuno-suppressed in May. It is welcomed if those eligible are able to get the vaccine from one of the Vaccine Centres e.g. Exeter Hall, to ease pressure on the KEY Practice team.

b) Funding requests

KM requested consideration of funding of a *Medi MD* Doppler machine for use at Yarnton surgery. This will complement the similar machine at Kidlington to give Yarnton patients the same local facility. The *Medi MD* is used to assess leg ulcers, peripheral artery disease and oedema, to determine the most effective treatment for a given condition. It allows automated, objective assessment in five minutes, meaning an entire appointment can be held within ten minutes with an HCA. With the old style Doppler machine, the process was manual and subjective taking 50 minutes with a nurse. The reduction in time, and use by trained HCAs, means more patients can be seen by the nursing team. It also allows more timely treatment, fewer complications and improved quality of life for affected patients.

The cost for the *Medi MD* is £3,340 and was approved unanimously. KM to forward the invoice to CR in due course.

7. Patient awareness of full GP list

AP asked if a list of all current GPs including locums be made available since some appointments are the first time a patient has heard of a particular GP. KM provided the full list as follows:

Practice GPs

Dr Simon Tucker - Executive Partner (also a Registrar trainer) (M)

Dr David Finnigan - Partner (M)

Dr Elamathi Prabhakaran (Dr Mathi) – Partner (F)

Dr Dawn Leedham – Partner (F)

Dr Katharina Winkel (F)

Dr Clare Pritchard (also a Registrar trainer) (F)

Dr Eleanor Vogel (F)

Dr Matthew May (M)

Dr Daniele Saville-Tucker (Registrar) (F)

Dr Rachel McVea (Registrar) (F)

Locum GPs (self-employed)

Dr Luke Brown (M)

Dr Laura McCulloch (F)

Dr Lorraine Gray (F)

Dr Lorna Knight (F)

Dr Esther Harazi (F)

Dr Melissa Phillips (F)

Dr Priya Moorthy (F)

Dr Morgen Farrington (F)

ANPs (Advanced Nurse Practitioners – same day appointments)

Mr Dan Chilvers

Mr Wayne McKenna

8. Check-in screen reliability

TS had asked about the seemingly long period that the check-in screen had been out of order as it impacts on reception queues and waiting times, causing difficulties for those with mobility issues. KM advised that the problem has been due to a global shortage of specific parts used in the equipment. It is hoped that a new machine will be installed around 25th April.

9. Update on voluntary offer of help

It is understood that much of the day-to-day work involves confidentiality issues that precludes PPG members helping out with admin etc. It was agreed that the offer from PPG to assist remains open, should anything occur that we can assist with.

10. Kidlington and Yarnton cycle racks

The cycle rack at Kidlington is completed and available for use. Articles were recently published in *Kidlington News* and *Yarnton Village News* to publicise this. There is only a single rack available at Yarnton with cycles sometimes chained to the front gates. JH to request a quotation from Greenwood Builders to provide a similar facility outside Yarnton surgery.

11. New website updates

The new modern look KEY website is welcomed but there are a number of inconsistencies in the PPG page(s). KM is no longer able to directly edit the website; changes need to be sent to the website design company to be uploaded.

AC noted there is an overlap in desire for a Virtual PPG group (on website) and the General Members class of membership in the PPG Constitution. Since there has been no Virtual Group formed in several years, the suggestion is to change the General Member description to *Virtual Member* in the constitution and to amend the website accordingly. AC to draft alternative wording for approval and also update PPG Constitution as part of annual review for the AGM.

12. Cancellation of Bicester Health & Wellbeing Hub

AC raised concerns over the recent cancellation of the *Bicester Health and Wellbeing Centre* that was to have combined two existing practices into one centre providing additional services in one place. The privately funded project was cancelled despite an expected c20,000 increase in population due to local development. This was swiftly followed by news that the two GPs running the joint Kennington and Botley Practices are to 'hand back the keys' having given six months' notice to quit; largely due to similar issues experienced at KEY, such as inability to recruit additional GPs. The parallels with promised Exeter surgery building expansion and 4,000+ new homes being built around Kidlington, Begbroke and Yarnton is clear.

KM advised that the Bicester development had funding in place but was halted due to spiralling costs affecting the building sector; but that it may also be a tactical trick previously employed by developers to get more money for projects.

Arguably, Yarnton will see the largest growth in patient demand and therefore see the greatest impact. Although there is space to further develop Yarnton surgery, more GPs would still be needed to staff it.

13. AOB

AK raised the concerns over the Kidlington pharmacy with the imminent closure of Lloyds in Sainsburys. The solution to limited space is being investigated. The increase in requested lead-time, from two to four working days, for collection of routine prescriptions is not simply due to increase in demand but also the national problem with sourcing drugs causing delays.

14. Date of next meeting

AGM and regular meeting Wednesday 12th July 2023 at 7.00pm at Yarnton Surgery.