

## **Minutes of the meeting of Bruton Patient Participation Group held at Bruton Community Hall at 11am on 22 September 2023**

### 1. Introductions and apologies

Jane Hobbs was welcomed back to Bruton Surgery and the PPG.  
Apologies – Elisabeth

### 2. Previous Minutes were approved

Actions and matters arising from previous meeting:

- Surgery Signage. Jane was unaware of the issue but said the overhanging foliage was preventing Biffa driving down to empty the Surgery bins. David will email Tom Power copying Jane regarding signage and David will also email Elisabeth to discover if she has contacted the owners of Patwell House.
- Website. Jane will progress matters.
- Health Booth. Jane will progress matters.
- Premises. Jane has had a meeting with Bruton Town Council. An application is being considered for houses with a site for the new surgery. There is some opposition to the proposal with one reason being given that the surgery would not be able to cope. This reason is fallacious as the new surgery will be 50% larger than the existing one. Jane confirmed that once planning permission is granted the new surgery should be ready within 2 years.

### 3. Further Update on Health Coaches.

Jane reported that Sarah is the performance leader and her paper on the role and purpose of Health Coaches will be circulated by Jane to members of the PPG. The emphasis is on early prevention rather than an expensive cure. Mental problems including dementia and learning how to live with pain are also being addressed. The practice is also looking to find a young person's coach.

### 4. Transport facilities for patients.

If you need to go to a hospital for an appointment and do not have access to a car you can call "Ring and Ride". You need to register to use it and you reimburse the volunteer driver his mileage cost. Jane will put

up a sign in the surgery with the contact details and mention it to the receptionists . David will email Elisabeth about putting details about the service in the Dove.

5. Is there any reason why patients should not be told who they are seeing.

Jane said that the short answer to that question is no. Jane said there might be some push back on this because staff may feel that a patient might resent seeing a nurse partitioner rather than a Doctor . Jane will ensure that all patients are told who they will be seeing.

6. Recruitment of new members.

David said that he feels we need some new members and the meeting was in agreement. It was agreed that each member would try to bring a suggestion of a new member to the meeting in December.

7. Practice Update

Jane circulated a paper to the meeting. She then highlighted various parts of the report. E.g. Friends and family response, the roll out of separate Covid and flu jabs, the lowering of the age for the Shingles vaccination, the departures of Dr Andrews and Laura Reyland, the return of Dr Dolman for one day a week, the retention of Dr Rogers albeit for only one day a week and the transfer of a trainee doctor from Wincanton.

8. AOB

Patience mentioned that there is currently only one chair with arms in the Surgery. There used to be more. It is difficult for her to get up if the chair has no arms. Jane will ensure more are provided in the waiting room.

Virginia reported that Somerset hospitals have coped fairly well during the current round of strikes and that the merger between Yeovil and Musgrove Park Hospitals is going well.

David asked Jane if annual blood tests are routinely carried out for patients over a certain age. Jane said that this was not the case. Annual blood tests are only carried out for patients on certain medication.

David reminded the meeting that he has been chairing meetings as acting chairman in Fiona's absence. Now that she has confirmed she will not be returning did members want David to become Chairman and they agreed he should.

9. Next Meeting. 12pm on 8 December 2023 at the Bruton Community Hall.