

Minutes of the meeting of Bruton Patient Participation Group held via Microsoft Teams at 11am on 26 May 2023

1. Introductions and apologies
Apologies – Patience.
2. Actions and matters arising from previous meeting:
 - the health coaches are up and running and Paul will ask Sarah to give an update at the next meeting.
 - Surgery signage. Paul has sent Tom Power a photo of the existing sign which given its current position is not very helpful particularly if you are driving. Paul will liaise with Tom Power to see if Somerset Highways can be persuaded to move and/or make the sign more conspicuous.
 - Website and Surgery publicity. Pictures of all staff to be uploaded very shortly. Paul would like to put notices on the boards inside and outside the library. Angela will try to help Paul get access these boards with keys from the library.
 - New GPs. Still struggling to find replacements. It appears many GPs prefer the flexibility and lack of responsibility of being a Locum. Is the NHS paying Locums too much or dedicated GPs too little or a combination of the two?
 - Health Booth. The order has been placed but we have no idea when it might be delivered. Paul will chase but we may have to order from somewhere else.
3. Role of Pharmacies going forward. Bruton Pharmacy is private and is staffed by locum pharmacists some of whom have the right to prescribe drugs. Not clear how well the Government's initiative for pharmacies will work in Bruton. Evidence suggests that it is working well in Scotland.
4. Transference of Patient's records. David outlined their experience. They moved to Cornwall in March 2022 and their records were transferred from Bruton to the practice in Cornwall with little difficulty. However since moving back in September 2022 to date no records have been received. Paul will look into this as this length of delay should not occur.
5. Practice Update. Two new receptionists Liz and Lorraine have started.
6. Frequency of Meetings. This was discussed and it was agreed that commencing in June meetings would be held quarterly and in person at the Bruton Community Hall. If extra meetings were found to be necessary they can be held via Microsoft Teams.
8. AOB. Ginny reported that the Somerset Engagement Group would be present at the Glastonbury Festival. Also the NHS is 75 this year and any stories about the service should be sent in as soon as possible. Elizabeth, who admits to being a bit of a technophobe, said she found the experience of calling up and getting an appointment without recourse to a computer very gratifying. But if we all did that could the practice cope?
9. Next Meeting. 11am 30 June 2023 in Bruton Community Hall.