

**MINUTES OF THE MARDEN MEDICAL CENTRE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING 16th
December 2021 via ZOOM**

PRESENT. John Haddow, Lyne and Chris Childs, Judy and Carroll Taylor, Kate and Graham Tippen, Peter Kershaw, Julie West, Roy Latham, Jenny Jones, Liz Simmonds, Jill Nichols, Gill Tarry, Dr Julie Morgan.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Sian Burr, Anne Boswell, Mary-Jayne Bournes.

PRACTICE UPDATE. Dr Morgan gave an update from the Practice – notes as follows: “Covid boosters our priority since September’21. Going well but huge effort and does impact on business as usual. Great response from volunteers.

80+ and HSCW- 94%

75-79 – 95%

70-74 – 89%

65-69- 88%

Flu vaccinations going well.

Age 2 – 72.8% (2nd in CCG)

Age 3- 74.8%

Over 65 – 86.9 % (3rd in CCG)

50-64 not in at risk group – 61.9% (1st in CCG)

Other priorities: cervical screening, childhood vaccinations, other adult vaccinations. Some work suspended to prioritise boosters but still coping with large demand and more anticipated as Omicron increases. Large drive to get patients out of hospital and keep them out of hospital. Other challenges: staff sickness and isolation after contact. Recruitment – replacement nurse and dispenser. Positives: New additional Paramedic – starting January, initially 2 days per week, increasing to 3 in April’21.”

The group expressed their thanks for the work of the GP’s and surgery staff – in these difficult times.

Questions: A question was asked about a 4th Covid vaccination for eligible patients. Dr Morgan confirmed that a 4th vaccine was in discussion for eligible patients with a weakened immune system but no decisions regarding timing had been announced.

Dr Morgan confirmed the new Paramedic was an additional head for the Surgery team.

John Haddow thanked the GP’s for their generous **£150 donation** to the Food Bank in lieu of a thank you gift for clinic volunteers. Thank you volunteers.

Dr Morgan left the meeting.

CLINIC VOLUNTEERS UPDATE. Roy Latham gave a short update on the volunteer rota activities and acknowledged the support of the 45 approx. volunteers who had offered to support the Flu and Covid booster clinics – both PPG members and non-PPG members. Thanks to the Parish Council for promoting the need for extra volunteers over recent weeks. The accelerated December booster schedule was proving more challenging to secure adequate volunteer cover at short notice. Subsequent to the meeting – the post vaccination wait time has been temporarily suspended and with increased Covid restrictions – volunteers have been reduced to only 2 per clinic. If anyone has not volunteered and would like to volunteer for the forthcoming clinics – they should contact Roy via email or on his direct line.

John Haddow expressed his thanks to Roy for his outstanding efforts on organising the rota - so far.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES. The group were asked to approve the 23rd September '21 meeting minutes. No issues. **Agreed.**

PPG ACTIVITIES UPDATE. John Haddow gave an update on PPG activities over the last 3 months.

The Weald PCN PPG group bi-monthly calls continue only to be supported by the Marden PPG. Thanks to Sian Burr for her continued support. The PPG will continue to support.

The West Kent PPG Chairs the Kent wide CCG calls have been about patient access – appointment availability and telephone systems - to GP Surgeries and how the NHS is coping with the current crisis. Some dialogue on the MTW Cardiology Public Consultation ongoing and the Maidstone Inequalities Initiative. It would appear Marden Medical Centre does not have the same level of access concerns from its patients. Thanks largely to the investment in telephony and IT systems within the Practice.

Gill Tarry reminded the group that The Friends of Marden Medical Centre continues to support the Practice with requested equipment – approx. £10,000 per year. Thanks to the continued generous donations from patients.

The Community Forum call for community leaders has continued every 6 weeks. Involve has been attending some Food Bank sessions to offer support.

11 new members have joined in the last 3 months the PPG most from new residents @ Marden. The group is now 285 patients. The PPG continues to promote health and wellbeing in the Parish Church Magazine.

A question was asked if the additional members had signed up because of volunteering for the clinics. The answer is yes, we have had 4 new PPG members as a direct result of the non-PPG patients volunteering with the clinics. This is good news.

All PPG meetings will be held virtually for the foreseeable future.

AOB. There was no other business.

This concluded the meeting.

DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY 24th March 2022 at 7:00pm via Zoom.