

**MINUTES OF THE MARDEN MEDICAL CENTRE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING 23rd
September 2021 via ZOOM**

PRESENT John Haddow, Lyne and Chris Childs, Judy and Carroll Taylor, Kate and Graham Tippen, Sian and Geoff Burr, Peter Kershaw, Anthony Sampson, Julie West, Roy Latham, Dr Julie Morgan, Mary- Jayne Bournes.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Gill Tarry, Jenny Jones, Jill Nichols, Sarah Chapman, Jackie Laister, Claire Courtley, Valerie Hesketh, Anne Boswell.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: The group were asked to approve the June 24th '21 AGM meeting minutes. No issues. All **agreed**.

PPG ACTIVITIES UPDATE. John Haddow (JohnH) gave a short update on PPG activities over the last 3 months. The PPG has been intentionally quiet over the summer. The Weald PCN PPG group bi-monthly calls are only supported by the Marden PPG. The PPG will continue to support.

The Kent wide CCG calls have been about patient access to GP Surgeries and how the NHS is coping with the current crisis. Some dialogue on the recent proposed changes to the Social care system. Note should be made of KCC's new Social Care Plan Consultation questionnaire submission date of 24/10. Members are invited to review and respond to the Plan. See: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/adult-social-care-policies/your-life-your-wellbeing>

10 new members have joined the PPG most from new residents @ Marden. The group is now 275 patients. The PPG continues to promote health and wellbeing in the Parish Church Magazine and the MPC Newsletter - the Empowercare digital support scheme for patients who require some digital support or to loan tablets. The promotions will run until Dec'21.

The PPG had created a vaccination volunteers list of currently 30+ members. More volunteers are likely to be required. John asked the MPC for help to spread the 'call to action' message. Kate Tippen **agreed**, the MPC would support this. Roy Latham has kindly offered to manage the volunteer's rota.

JohnH also offered the PPG volunteers for any activity that would be appropriate for volunteers to help @ the Surgery over the coming months – which are likely to be very busy with vaccines etc. Dr Morgan and Mary-Jayne Bournes gratefully accepted the offer and would advise - if needed.

JohnH asked if a post Summer Newsletter would be required. Dr Morgan and Mary-Jayne responded that with the workload and all that was going on they would not have time to generate new content. It was decided the PPG Newsletter would 'take a break' until Spring'22. Any information for patients would be shared by email to members. This was **agreed**.

JohnH advised that due to the continued risk with coronavirus spread even with fully vaccinated patients – all PPG meetings would be held virtually for the foreseeable future. This was **agreed**.

PRACTICE UPDATE. Dr Morgan said the practice has now reached **7,050 patients** which will continue to increase as the new houses were occupied. Dr Morgan reminded the group of the recent MORI GP Survey results where Marden Medical Centre scored well, and Weald Surgeries were in the top 3 in Kent for patient service.

The Surgery had two new trainee GP's working with them which was positive news.

The Surgery remains very busy and the staff are seeing an increase in RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) types of infection – more instances earlier than normal, this year. Dr Morgan noted that there was some concern from patients on the availability of face-to-face appointments. On that

day some 21 face to face appointments had been scheduled and generally it is a 70:30 split between remote or telephone consultations versus face-to-face consultations.

Telephone triage is still being undertaken, to reduce the need for unnecessary Surgery visits. Strict hygiene controls were being maintained and all patients need to wear a face covering or mask when visiting the Surgery. The Surgery waiting room numbers are being kept to a minimum.

Dr Morgan acknowledged the continued help of the Friends of Marden Medical Centre for their help with the new building fit out and other items of equipment for the Surgery.

The practice is working with local community organisations such as the Food Bank, Church, MPC, the local school, Involve, the PPG etc. – via a bi-monthly call - to share village group activities and plans.

Mary-Jayne, Practice Manager gave an update of the latest plan for Flu and Covid Booster Clinics. The clinics would be done independently at this time to enable maximum flexibility – no flu and Covid Booster would be administered at the same time. **The planned clinic dates would be subject to change – full details will be posted on the Surgery website and Facebook page and shared to PPG members via email.**

The plan is for a number of walk-in flu clinics for the over 50's and those other eligible patients. Clinics would be planned on Wednesdays – current dates were **13th and 20th October** 2:00pm to 6:00pm.

Covid Boosters (with the Pfizer vaccine) would be offered to the same cohorts as the 1st two Covid vaccinations. JCVI cohorts 1-4 by November and cohorts 5-9, December onwards. The current planned clinics will be on Saturdays. More will be planned – **9th October and 16th October**.

The NHS National Booking System is already up and running for eligible patients. Letters will be sent out to eligible patients. Local National Booking vaccine sites include **Flimwell** and **East Peckham** and potentially **Larkfield** – dependent on patient post code and vaccine availability. As before, patients can choose where to have their Covid booster vaccination – now with the added benefit of the local Marden Surgery. Texts and messages would be going out from the Surgery w/c 27/9 inviting patients for vaccinations at the Surgery. The Surgery team will also likely be responsible for supporting home vaccination visits for eligible home-bound patients.

A Covid Booster would only be available to patients, 6 months after their last Covid vaccination date. Patients should wait to be called for both the flu vaccination and the Covid booster – if eligible, or check the National Booking site.

The Surgery has been designated as a vaccine hub to support the other 10 Weald Practices and would be distributing vaccine and PPE to the other local Practices. The new building is being used as the secure distribution area.

Volunteers to help at the clinics will be needed. Roy Latham is coordinating the volunteer list.

AOB. There was no other business.

DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY 16th December 2021 at 7:00pm via Zoom.

This concluded the meeting.