

Minutes of Waterfoot Patients Participation Group.

Meeting Tuesday 6th December 2016 at 6pm

In Attendance: Ronnie Barker (RB), Carole Barker (CB), Jodi Boys (JB), John Doherty (JD)
Betsy Keating (BK) James Cowdery (JC)

Apologies: D Doherty and Lois James

Waterfoot PPG welcomes new member Betsy Keating to the meeting.

Before the meeting starts RB takes a moment for the group to remember our fellow PPG member Philip Hodgson who sadly passed away earlier this year whilst enjoying a fishing holiday. His contribution to the practice over the years has been invaluable and he will be sadly missed.

CQC Report: JD informed the group that the practice passed on all areas with no highlights for improvement. ENT, Military Veteran Support and GP Allergy Clinic were rated as Excellent.

16:35 Dementia Friendly Update: RB circulated information packs from Friends Reminisce which inside had details for Age UK Lancashire, Crossroads, Rossendale Memory Choir, Alzheimer's Society, Carers Link Lancashire and Dementia Friendly Rossendale listing lots of activities and 'what's on' in our area.

JD informed the group that the Irwell PPG has produced a leaflet for Asylum Seekers and suggested we do something similar.

RB added that the new website is in development with the help of Alder Grange School for Dementiafriendlyrossendale.org with lots of information being added. He also mentioned 6 Dementia Market Place Events are to be held in 2017 targeting the East of the Valley – Bacup & Whitworth where awareness appears to be lacking.

16:36 Waterfoot PPG are under the umbrella of the Rossendale PPG Network which is one of the five Localities covered by the Patient Partners Board of the East Lancs CCG. RB informed the group that he attended a PPB meeting recently and £238M needs to be saved in the next 5 years highlighted as a Financial Challenge in the 'Together A Healthier Future' case for change booklet.

Also, Ribblesdale have MSP, (Multi Speciality Provider), and things are moving forward there.

There is a PPG Workshop on the 25th January 2017 at Walshaw House and anyone who is interested in going will be more than welcome.

16:37 RB Informed the group that a Gluten Free Survey is being carried out by Blackburn/Darwen on whether we actually need gluten free prescriptions as more and more supermarkets are now selling wider varieties of the foods. The CCG are reviewing this and exploring other options.

16:38 RB Distributed Rossendale PPG leaflets informing us on lots of 'goings on' at the Rossendale Hub. At the last meeting they had 2 presentations, 1 by Christine Sharples who produced a Cancer Risks poster. She wanted ideas on how to work successfully with other PPG's to raise cancer awareness. As yet, she hasn't been to a Waterfoot meeting, her ideas have been promoted on Facebook/ Twitter, and we are waiting to hear from her.

The second presentation was by Nazum Usman - she was looking for any survivors of Cancer to participate in sharing their stories to help other with early diagnosis. Could we leave leaflets around the surgery to raise awareness?

JD Suggested doing workshops for families to talk about their Cancer experiences and look to other families in the same situations for mutual support. He would be prepared to get the ball rolling in the workshops. He also informed the group that the Waterfoot nurses are working on a Diabetes Group and have a 'Champion' and we could work in a similar way. Once the surgery is ready for it, (June time), JD will inform RB and it can be promoted through the surgery.

16:39 Update from Health and Wellbeing Partnership

They have been pressed to keep their database up to date on the REAL for Rossendale Community Directory as it seems they have fallen behind. It was reported that there are currently 38 Asylum Seekers in Rossendale and it is important to link them into voluntary work to help with their integration. The Irwell Practice has initially produced a leaflet with information on but it needs improvement and JD would like to vet it first before distribution. It will be put on the Agenda to be followed up at the next meeting.

16:40 Facebook, Website and Twitter update

RB informed JD that the Facebook link doesn't work on the Waterfoot Group of Doctors website, but while it is being maintained, could we also have a Twitter link too. JD wasn't aware of this but will investigate.

Patients Page on the Website. RB asked if 2016/17 action plan page can be added as 2015/16 was still there when he checked. (It turns out, it was there but just a link, not in full). JD will replace with full article.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th March at 6pm when we will discuss:

Our action plan for 2017/18

Review of 2016/17

Asylum Seekers booklet

Set up a Champions Meeting

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!