

BAILDON MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Minutes of PPG Meeting 11 December, 2024 at 2:00pm

Present: Lizzie Lister (Practice Manager), Dr S Patterson (GP), Sue Jerram, Karen Jones, Kevin Holland, Janet Davidson

Apologies were received from Jean Robinson and Chris Flecknoe.

Agenda

Matters Arising

Chairs

Karen asked for an update on the new waiting room chairs with arm rests. Post meeting these are now in situ in both the upstairs and downstairs waiting rooms.

Collective Action

The surgery is cutting down on doing hospital bloods as part of the collective action, as they are unfunded. 30% of the Practice's Phlebotomy appointments were being done for the hospital. Each patient is looked at on a case by case basis and if appropriate for them to be done, then the Practice will still continue to do them. If not, the Practice writes to the patient and their consultant. Baidon has only had two complaints from consultants and another two letters from consultants supporting the Practice's stance on the matter.

Finance

Discussion took place around the hike in national insurance contributions and the impact on our Practice. Rough figures suggest this will cost the Practice an additional £40K. The Practice is looking at ways we can bring in income for non NHS services, such as charging for medical reports, writing letters etc. It may be that in the future the Practice will no longer be funded for providing ear syringing.

Telephone System

The Practice has received positive feedback from the patients, as well as from the PPG regarding our new telephone system.

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) Programme

This is now underway and the Practice has vaccinated over 800 patients over the last two Saturday mornings. All adults turning 75 years old on or after 1 September 2024 are eligible for the routine programme and should be offered a single dose of the RSV vaccine on or after their 75th birthday. A one-off catch-up campaign for those already aged 75 to 79 years old on 1 September 2024 with the aim of completing the majority by 31 August 2025. Karen stated it was a shame that those not eligible cannot have the vaccine in order to be covered.

Covid Autumn (2024) Booster Vaccination Programme/Flu Vaccinations

The Bingley Bubble PCN has immunised most of its cohort of patients and indeed has vaccinated the biggest percentage of its patients out of all the PCNs. Kevin stated that it will be interesting to see next year's A&E data to see if hospital admissions have been affected by the programme. Winter funding has been made available in central Bradford for acute respiratory hubs. Discussion took place around the Spring Booster programme (April and May 2025). If the Practice goes ahead with these they will probably do a Saturday morning clinic again.

Online Consultations

There has been a push by NHS England to implement Modern General Practice, including online consultations as a way of contacting the Practice. Patients submit either a clinical or non-clinical request through PATCHS, the Practice responds to the request and this generally results in a GP appointment. Baildon Medical Practice uses the traditional model and has great access for patients with one third of its appointments being pre-bookable and two thirds being bookable on the day appointments. This has resulted in a low uptake for PATCHS for our Practice but the consensus amongst the PPG was to continue with our current model as access was not causing a problem for our patients. A New GP Contract is due in the near future. PATCHS will be available for patients during core hours, e.g. Monday to Friday, 0800 – 1800. Kevin said it was frustrating that there was not currently a way for patients to upload their own BPs etc to save them coming into the Practice. The Practice will look at how it can facilitate this.

Surgery Update

Staff

- Sister Gabrielle Foy, Lead Practice Nurse, started 9/12/24 – working Tues to Fri, 0900 – 1800
- A Health Care Assistant has been recruited (to replace Anne Robertson who retires at the end of February 2025) – undergoing pre-employment checks
- An administrator has also been recruited to start at the end of January 2025. – undergoing pre-employment checks
- Sister Catherine Kniveton, Practice Nurse, leaves 30 December, 2024
- Dr Rameez Rahman is currently working as Maternity Locum cover for Dr Sophia Stephanides. Rameez will be staying on as a permanent salaried GP and Dr Sophia Stephanides returns to work in March 2025.

Any Other Business

Update from Wesleys

In Chris' absence, Lizzie passed on the following update with regard to Wesley's.

1. SMALL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING GRANTS PROGRAMME ABOUT TO BE LAUNCHED BY BINGLEY BUBBLE COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP.

Full details and an application form will be available soon. Anyone who is involved with a small voluntary organisation working within the sphere of health and well-being in the Baildon area, serving patients of Baildon Medical Centre, should contact Chris Flecknoe if they would like further details. There is to be a meeting on Tuesday 14 January 2025 at 10.00am (lunch provided) at Bingley Arts Centre for representatives of voluntary organisations interested in applying for one of these grants to get more information. Grants can range from £500 at the lower end to £4000 for a larger project. There will also be a presentation about sources of data which voluntary organisations may find it useful to access to support applications for funding in the future from a variety of sources.

2. NEW ACTIVITIES AT WESLEYS.

a) Already started: COPe Social Group for Carers and the Cared for. Stay for the whole session or just drop in. If Cared-for can safely be left for a while then the Carer can have a bit of time to themselves.

b) Starting on 9th January. Tai Chi class. Each Thursday 2.00-3.00pm. £9 per session.

c) Also starting - almost certainly - on Thursday 9 January. Welfare benefits and debt advice provided by Windhill Advice Centre. Booking essential. Wesleys are still in the final stage of negotiating about this and further information to follow in due course. They are looking for some friendly volunteers for a rota of people to welcome those coming for an appointment with the Advice Worker. If anyone knows of anyone who might like to help on a fortnightly or three weekly basis, please will they let Chris know.

Wesley's Regular Activities sheet – on BMP website

Wesleys activities will be closed from Monday 23rd and will reopen on Tuesday 2nd. Wesley's Cafe and the Warm Space will be open to welcome people during this period on all days except Bank Holidays.

Prescribing

- Statins

Discussion took place around the prescribing of statins. There are great benefits to patients taking statins and we have seen a big reduction in heart disease and people are living longer. If patients aged 80+ are struggling with their side effects, we would probably take them off the statins or not commence them on statins if they are older than 80.

- Medicinal Cannabis

Clarification was sought re the Practice prescribing medicinal cannabis – we do not.

- Local Pharmacies

Following the closure of Boots Pharmacy, Browgate Pharmacy has been overwhelmed and no longer opens on a Saturday. The Practice prescribes generically, and the pharmacies dispense what they can get hold of or get cheaper

- Navigating the NHS

Karen shared how hard it is for the elderly to navigate the NHS and what services they are entitled to or can be referred into and discussion took place re referrals to hospitals and being told they are out of area. Dr Patterson clarified that patients have a 'right to choose' and be referred where they want to.

Date of Next Meeting

Discussion took place around inviting MP Anna Dixon, Labour MP for Shipley, to the next meeting of the PPG to share feedback re primary care. Possible dates including 2nd or 16th April 2025. **All members to come up with agenda items for discussion please.**