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**Bridges Patient Participation Group (PPG)**

14 July 2022

Zoom

**Notes of Meeting**

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|  |  | **Action** |
| **1** | **Welcome and apologies**Present: Sue Brunt (Chair), Dr Karen Kirkham, Lennie Edwards, JW, MD, LP, GC, SE, Jim Gammans (CCG)Apologies: FK |  |
| **2** | **Surgery update***Staff Changes –* We have still not been able to replace Dr Hall so are a Dr short. We are taking on extra trainees in August so will have a total of 4.Bev Martin (Nurse Practitioner) has left. We have a new Advanced Care Practitioner called Toby Marshall starting in August.Fin Mercer a Paramedic will be joining us shortly. Fin and Suzanna (Practice Nurse) will be starting Advanced Care Practitioner training in September.Lennie explained that Advanced Care Practitioners are similar to Advanced Nurse Practitioners but have different backgrounds. E.g. Toby was a Paramedic. They do the same training, but ‘Nurse’ is no longer in the title.*Appointments –* Due to being a Dr short our pre-booked access is poor at the moment. We are using locums where possible. We encourage patients to wait to see their usual Dr if at all possible. Any urgent problems are dealt with on the same day if needed and we are seeing an increase in the number of patients the Duty Drs are seeing.*Extended Access –* The practice recently sent out a text with a link to survey that is being sent to all Weymouth and Portland patients. From October we are being asked to double the amount of time we offer outside our normal hours (8am – 6:30pm Mon – Fri).Whilst we appreciate it may be more convenient for patients to be seen at other times, we only have the same number of staff to provide these appointments and therefore if appointments are at a different time they are likely to be instead of current times. The PCN is trying to recruit staff to help.*Masks*The practice is once again asking patients to wear masks when they attend the surgery. We have an increasing number of staff off with Covid and want to protect patients and ensure we can continue to operate without having to cancel too many appointments. |  |
| **3** | **Garden Project**Sue has tried to get this off the ground but has been unable to get help from Dorset Volunteer. To be put on hold for present. |  |
| **4** | **Newsletter**This has been published and is on the website. Will shortly be text to patients.Sue pointed out that the times for the digital champion sessions are wrong. The mobile number that the surgery texts from has been included as per the previous meeting. | LE to get the times of the digital champion sessions on the website corrected. |
| **5** | **Digital Champions**The Digital Champions are operating drop in sessions at The Bridges Tues AM and Littlemoor Tues PM. It is going very well and they are helping patients access the NHS app.They will soon be expanding their role to help patients register onto a hypertension monitoring app and there will be a campaign promoting this.If anyone would like to volunteer to help please contact Sue. |  |
| **6** | **DCR**Jim gave an update about the Dorset Care Record (DCR). There are 2 parts to it – 1. Records are accessible by staff in health and social care in Dorset. Each organisation uses their own system but the DCR pulls information into one so it can be shared between professionals. It means things such as allergies can be checked in an emergency. To access the DCR staff have to be trained and specifically given access. Its use is audited.
2. My DCR is currently being trialled. If successful it will enable patients to arrange hospital appointments, view their records and hospital letters and input goals and data such as weight loss. We don’t yet know if it will integrate with the NHS app or not.

Presentation of a recent webinar can be found here <https://nhsdorset.nhs.uk/dcrwebinar/>  |  |
| **7** | **AOB**The group needs a new deputy chair. If anyone is interested please speak to Sue.*Covid Vaccines*The autumn booster programme won’t be provided by the practices. Patients will need to phone 119 or go online to book once they receive an invite. The patient groups eligible for the vaccine is set nationally by the JCVI. |  |
|  | **Close****Next meeting 20 September 2022 6pm.** |  |