

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP
CHEVIOT PRIMARY CARE CENTRE

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 19 January 2016 4pm.

PRESENT: Sue Wade, Lorna Moore, Christine Short, Teresa Culbertson, Jan Clucas, Rosanna Reed.

1. Minute Taker – Sue Wade
2. Apologies – Mike Allport
3. Minutes for Approval – Minutes of 1 September were read with amendments, agreed and signed.
Minutes of 24 November were read, agreed and signed.
4. Matters Arising – none.

It was agreed to go to Item 6 until Dr Batley arrived.

6. Health Matters Stall at Glendale Festival – Date is Sunday 24 July. It was agreed to organize a stall as requested by Glendale Festival Committee. They have asked us what we are going to do. The following was suggested – RR to contact First Responder, Mark Mather/Defibrillator demo. TC to contact Age UK, SW to contact Diabetes. Practice Manager to be contacted to find out what leaflets would be useful/relevant. Perhaps a Blood Pressure machine. RR to find out size of table.

SW read out proposed report for PPG meeting that she will attend on 18th Feb in Alnwick, a couple of amendments were made. RR to forward said report to her contact.

5. Dr Batley arrived (4.40). She was asked about the problem of patients going to A&E in the first instance – she reported that this situation seem to have eased in Northumberland, GPs were in talks with 111 service. She then went onto ask our assistance in the problem of prescribing generic medicines. NHS has issued guidelines that this was to happen. However, patients are not happy in some cases, and do not believe that the medicines are same/as good. The savings in monetary terms are high and this extra money can then be used by GPs for other drugs necessary in life changing diseases, such as cancer and kidney diseases. She gave us an example – soluble paracetamol per 100 costs £60, rather than non soluble paracetamol 60p, which does just as good a job. It was agreed that PPG would compose a letter to be sent to all patients to explain and allay any fears. LM to speak to Joanne in Surgery to obtain further information re costings. It was agreed to leave the subject of referrals to another date, as more information would be available in April.

7 Action Plan 2016 – TC produced a Table, which will be typed up and circulated to members in due course.

8. LM attended Primary Care Meeting – a speaker from MacMillan gave a presentation and explained that there were now 4 MacMillan Social Workers in the Northumberland area, on a 3rd funding from NHC Trust. These people deal with any terminally ill person over the age of 18 yrs. Their remit covers all assistance for family members when required. It was agreed that LM invite her to visit us at a future date. It was agreed to contact the local Pharmacist, Mr Booth, to see if he would come and talk about costs and types of medicines being available. Another Registrar has been taken on at Cheviot Surgery. Because of low numbers of births at Berwick and Alnwick these units are struggling – mothers are opting to go to Cramlington to the new Maternity Unit there, midwives are having to travel too.

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 15 March 2016.