

Fowey River Practice – Patient Participation Group

**Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday 14th January 2015**

6pm Par Surgery

Present

WL Chairman.

KF Secretary, RP, CP, MK, VD, RD, AB, EG, SG, RG, Amanda Bone

Corrections to email addresses made to SG & RG

- 1 Apologies MD GA
- 2 Welcome to all from the Chairman
- 3 Unanimously agreed to appoint AB as Vice Chairman
- 4 Dr Marrett then joined the meeting
- 5 The practice is trialing a TV screen in the Fowey surgery and will equip the other surgeries once the display has been settled. One or two people who have seen it think it a bit repetitive at present and needs more topics. It was suggested that the current figure of 262 for missed appointments should be added and the cost to the practice of missed appointments should be displayed as well. Explanations for the vaccination programme for flu and shingles would also be useful.
For the children an encouragement to eat their ‘five a day’ could be useful.

Every one would prefer to see the name of any Locum Doctor displayed in preference to 'Dr Locum'. (AB)

The Mevagissey Surgery was cited as a good example and worth visiting. (Anyone)

- 6 There was a brief discussion on the merits of older patients being asked if they would like a memory test as a means of diagnosing early signs of dementia. Most members seemed in favour provided it was not seen as threatening.
- 7 In response to a question from RG, WL confirmed that PPG groups meet as part of the Kernow Commissioning Group in the Merlin building to share experiences.

The Fowey River Practice is probably the biggest PPG group in the area.

- 8 The following members agreed to maintain the PPPG boards in the each surgery. Fowey AB, Par RP, Polruan KF Agreed to display agenda and minutes of meetings. NB Not complaints. (AB CP and KF)
- 9 CP raised the subject of the Virtual Group. She and EG are willing to take responsibility for the group and the Chairman suggested that they meet with him and Amanda in the near future to discuss the way forward. It was suggested that RG might help out with this as he is a 'dab hand with computers'
- 10 There was an invitation for members (ladies only) to join Sue Dooley visiting Curves Gym at Par. RP said she might be interested.
- 11 PM - out of hours service is now 111. It is considered to be disappointing mainly because it is serviced by poorly trained

staff. Patients are therefore directed to a minor injuries unit where there is no Doctor on duty. They can be directed to an out of hours GP and failing that to Bodmin.

The other problem is lack of social care. There needs to be more 'joined up thinking'.

Serco, the previous operators, had lost the contract as it was not financially viable.

The service is unpopular and unsatisfactory and we agreed to see if we could invoke the help of our two local MPs. (WL and KF).

RD & VD left at this point.

- 11 WL was keen to raise some funding for the benefit of the Practice and Amanda wondered whether an additional INR machine would be useful in order to save the present one at Fowey being shared with Polruan, (AB)

DONM Weds 11th February at Fowey.

Agreed to aim for meetings on 2nd Wednesday of each month.

KF to research the feasibility of a summer meeting in Polruan.

There followed a general discussion about patients and all of us taking better care of ourselves through exercise, and avoiding alcohol and drug abuse.