

**DUKINFIELD MEDICAL PRACTICE
PATIENT NETWORK GROUP MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd OCTOBER 2023
AT DUKINFIELD MEDICAL PRACTICE, CONCORD WAY AT 1.00 PM**

Present: Marion Higgins (Chairperson), Geoff Hill (Secretary), Joyce Jones (Treasurer), Sheila Frith (Asst. Secretary), Julie Pregnall (Practice Director), Bhikhu Mistry, Chris Eckersall, Dr.Vernon Marshall-Coulaudon, Joan Drummond.

Apologies for absence: None

Julie apologised for the change to the scheduled presentation. She said that this would be rearranged for a future meeting.

It was agreed that going forward PNG meetings will start at 1.30 pm and last for up to two hours.

Minutes of the previous meeting

These were approved as a correct record. Any matters arising would be covered by agenda items.

1. Treasurer's report

Joyce presented her report as follows: As from September 2023 there was a credit balance of £134.73 with a further grant of £800 from Action Together. The grant is broken down to Buggy Walk £200, Walking Group £200 Baby Bundles £400.

Debits are £40 Buggy Walk £23 Walking Group £20 other. (£83 total) The September debits are for stationery costs, advertising, posters, flyers and printing ink etc.

There is now a credit balance of Buggy Walk £160 Walking Group £177.

The Baby Bundles has debts not yet charged but monies spent awaiting receipts. To date there is a credit balance of £851.73. Various aspects were discussed and it was noted that the PCN had not made a contribution towards the cost of the health event. It was felt that time should be spent with the PCN to consider whether future events, still under the banner of DMP, could be organised with the assistance and expertise of the PCN.

Action: To be determined

2. Health Event Feedback

It was agreed that analysis of the event and its success or otherwise should be part of a de-brief by the sub group following feedback and conversations with the participants. The verbal feedback had been largely positive. Group members who attended were similarly positive in their comments.

A £75 donation to St John's Church was agreed for the use of their excellent facilities and support to the event.

3. Baby Bundles

Sheila and Marion updated the meeting on progress to date. A lot of interest has been shown and several people have now become involved. The group meets twice a month at Dukinfield Library. They now have a regular supply of gifts for new babies registered at the Practice and Julie confirmed that these have been warmly received. Approximately 20 have been distributed since the start in August. Unfortunately, no men have joined but it is hoped that that could change in the future. Participants are learning and sharing skills.

4. December Newsletter

This is due out on 1st December. Kath has now kindly taken on the task of arranging the distribution packs. There was some discussion about suitable topics to be covered including information about the different roles within the Practice which would perhaps help patients to understand that seeing a doctor is not always the most beneficial outcome; for instance seeing a pharmacist may be more appropriate. These considerations are made at the triage stage. Further items could include a brief report and photographs from the health event as well as promoting the Meadow Lane allotment project.

Action: Geoff/Julie/Sheila

5. New Patient Survey

It was acknowledged that this has been slower recently. However, Julie reported that those that are returned continue to show a steady 95% satisfaction.

6. Update on the Allotment

LEAP have an Open Day on Friday 27th October at the Meadow Lane site from 11am to 2pm and committee members were asked to attend if at all possible. They have designated a section of the area allocated to them to DMP for its own specific use. The Practice is keen to move forward with this project and asked for volunteers who are interested to make themselves known. A suitable time slot was discussed and Thursday seemed most suitable. This is an exciting opportunity. The Meadow Lane site is well resourced and offers us an opportunity to take part in a much wider initiative to benefit patients in what is recognised to be a very beneficial activity.

Action: All

7. Flu and Covid update

Children's flu clinics were held recently. The uptake for this is never high with differing opinions on the reasons. A large proportion of children receive their immunisation at school. Adult clinics however are more or less full.

8. Christmas Activities

A donation has been received which will largely fund the usual Christmas activities, i.e. distribution of hampers and a party. Marion offered to be the "lead" for the hampers and Geoff will lead on approaching local businesses for donations. A further funding opportunity has arisen and will be explored following this meeting as the closing date is 29/11/23, though that may be brought forward if the allocation is exhausted beforehand. Joyce offered to telephone to make enquiries about our likely success and advice on how to frame the bid.

This is a project that the group enjoys and there was a discussion about how to target individuals to receive the gifts. If the above mentioned bid is successful, we would be able to provide more gifts, which would mean a heavier workload.

An event for children/families was suggested, perhaps in the late spring. It was acknowledged this is perhaps more challenging but Sheila offered to contact Little Explorers who had exhibited at the health event to discuss how we might best take this forward.

A sub-group for arranging the Christmas party was agreed: **Julie, Joyce, Kath and Bhikhu** and Julie will lead.

Action: Marion/Geoff/Joyce/Sheila/Julie

9. Items for Future Meetings

Ideas for presentations to the group were submitted - Sitting yoga, Reikki, Wellbeing and Mindfulness.

It was noted we should not lose sight of previous issues such as provision of a "Listening Table" and space for the PNG presence. A practical benefit for instance could be assisting patients to fill in triage forms when necessary.

10. Date of Next Meeting

14th November 2023 at **1.30** at Concord Way.