

The Minutes of the PPG Meeting at Kirkburton Health Centre
Thursday October 22nd 2015

Apologies: Jane Wood, Dennis Roughsedge, Vanda White, Pat Shaw, Roy Cull, Lisa Kaye.

Present: Carole Hepworth, Joan Wray, George Paling, and Judith McCarter
Julie Raper (Development Manager) Ann Marie Brabiner (Carers Count)

Noticeboards The noticeboards are being tidied up currently. In future they will have posters and notices dated so that it will be known how long they have been displayed. There is a new notice/photoboard for the Carers Champions. It will display photos of the Carers Champions and any relevant information for carers. It is situated outside Dr Wallwork's room.

Staff photoboards are almost complete and in place.

Repeat Prescriptions it will not be possible to order repeat prescriptions by phone from 1st December 2015, unless you are a housebound patient. An information leaflet is available to inform patients of alternative ways of obtaining repeat prescriptions. This leaflet is attached to this document. The leaflet will explain the alternative ways of ordering your repeat prescriptions e.g. online.

Judith McCarters presentation followed. The points she made are also attached to this document. Having been carer for her husband for many years she gathered her thoughts together and made the observations you can read in her documents. Ann-Marie from Carers Count was impressed with her document and asked permission to use it in the development of the Carers Count organisation. Judith pointed out that she thought “ an appointment is for one person only” meant that only one person could go into the consulting room at one time, when in fact it means only one person can discuss their problem. She often wanted to be with her husband when he saw the doctor. Julie said that the wording could be changed to avoid future misunderstanding.

Julie pointed out that around 120 carers have now been identified in the Kirkburton Practice. The whole family of someone needing care is now flagged up on patient records as the situation affects the whole family, particularly children.

Ann-Marie said there is now a young carer's scheme. There is a card available to identify these young people. Schoolteachers need to be made aware of young carers too. She said Carers Count could help with claiming benefits. The forms are difficult to fill in and 40% don't apply because of this. Citizen's Advice will also help with this. Carers Count can also make home visits if carers are housebound. Locala are now linking with Carers Count and can highlight problems. Carers often feel alone and contact with other carers can often help.

Ann-Marie informed us of the Herbert Protocol. The West Yorkshire Police are learning to understand dementia. A form can be filled in by carers of dementia sufferers with a photo attached informing the police of possible places where they could go if lost or wander away. There is also a card to identify sufferers if they get lost in town. Kirklees the NHS and independent funding fund carers Count. They work independently of GPs.

Coffee Morning or Evening Julie suggested that the PPG might help with this as an initial contact with some of the Carers in the practice. A date is yet to be set. It will be an opportunity for Carers to complete the practice questionnaire and give them a reason to visit the practice too. Maybe the new ways of ordering repeat prescriptions can be discussed too. The times of day can be changed to help Carers to attend.

Volunteers are required from the PPG to help with the Coffee Morning/Evening.
Date will be sent out as soon as possible.

The next PPG meeting will be held on Thursday December 3rd 2015