**Apples Patient Group (APG)**

**Agenda**. (Mtg1)

**Date -** Friday 27th January 2023 at 2.15 pm (14.15 hrs) Apples Surgery.

Attendees: Dr. Chris. Minton, Gill Foott Dorset NHS/ICB, B. Duncan (BD) (Chair) T. Bishop,(patient), J. Warburton, (Social Prescriber and Town Councillor) T. Rogers, (past Chair and patient) Sue Ripley Patient, Helen Forward Patient, Simon Galvin (SG) Patient. Roger Marsh, (RM) Chair The Grove PPG

Apologies – Philippa Cannings Practise Manager, Pam  Winter-Goodwin, Irene Miller and Dy Hart - Notes Irene and Dy had organised to attend virtually by Teams but as Philippa Cannings (PC) was away (urgent ) that was not enabled.

1. Welcome.

BD welcomed all and explained PC absence. SG offered (very kindly) to take meeting notes.

1. Introductions. (APG support roles eg Minute secretary for limited period etc.).

Apples Practise update by Dr Minton,

Planning permission sought for converting ground floor premises to additional consulting rooms.

Opportunity to ‘spruce up’ waiting room area, especially to provide improved seating/display area/TV line of sight.

Area to be designated for patient information – eg hard copies Monthly Bites. Newsletters etc.

Overall the Practise is changing and moving forward. Good to tell patients and keep them informed.

1. Comments from Doctor in attendance (for limited period)

Yeatman under-utilised, greater awareness of MIU resource required, not least to reduce pressure on Yeovil A&E.

Surgery continues to be under great strain on resources.

Appointment of a Nurse Prescriber has eased some of the burden.

Request that the Patient Group keeps all patients informed of Practice news

1. Links with Primary Care Network and Integrated Care System with Community Health . – or not.

Gill Foottand Jill Warburton, reports in part, Appointment of a Social Prescriber has

* Enabled better resource identification to support needs beyond medical treatment
* Released GP’s time
* Piloted a Support Scheme for cancer patients (an historic GP role), inc. MacMillan

An updated Voluntary Sector Directory/Handbook is in preparation linking Local Authority and Community schemes at a neighbourhood level.

Request made that the Town Council endorse the available Cancer and Bereavement support. Matter to be raised at the March meeting of the Town Council Well-being Committee

Discussion held about the viability of holding a ‘Voluntary Groups Fair’ at the Digby Hall – an open item

1. New Apples Patient Group -  a discussion of the contents of the Reset  Notes (December 9th 2022) below.

NB – “The APG exists for patients and Surgery alike. It is a two way process, to regularly inform on available services and facilities at the Apples surgery, and the wider NHS. It has the benefit of reducing pressure on practitioners, and improving patient care.”  - Chair.

Group to review

* ‘positioning statement’ and respond by e-mail – ALL
* Hard copy of information availability e.g waiting room/notice boards/including in meds from dispensary (esp. non-digital patients)

1. Update from successful database and patient communication test on 17th January 2022  - Chair and Philippa.

Trial completed successfully, and next release scheduled for February 10 (see below) and subsequently the 10th of each month,

Contacting non-digital patients (758) remains an issue. Further analysis required PC/BD/SG

1. Arrange future dates for meetings and Monthly Apples sound bite – agree the name
   1. A) content and b) note completion and circulation.

Candidate messages for February release

* 1 Use MIU at Yeatman
* 2 Names/roles of people at Apples beyond GP’s (Sarah …Nurse Practitioner)
* 2 Community Pharmacy resource (esp Abbey Pharmacy)

Meeting scheduled for w/c January 30 PC/BD/SG

Frequency recommended 10 times a year (avoiding August and December)

Initiative needs to be sustained otherwise credibility/ usefulness compromised.

* 1. Newsletter dates

*As per Re-set paper issued 9/12/2022* ie next May 2023 then mid September 2023, December 2023 and May 2024.

* 1. APG meeting dates for the year (4 now planned over next 14 months) to coordinate with newsletters.

*As per Re-set paper issued 9/12/2022* – ie April 2023, late July or early August 2023, early November and mid March 2024.

* 1. Possible date for APG to meet Practise staff – May 2022 ????

Detailed proposals required, but in principle deemed a positive initiative.

1. Apples web site support

Discussion held over, but noted especially 1) the PPG was poor and APG could edit there “slot”, and 2) some of the information was out of date.

1. Membership of APG.

Discussion held over

1. Any other business

RM - Concern raised over the possible closure of St. Johns Alms Houses in Sherborne and what the future might hold. Agreed he would draft a letter and the two PG’s would agree and send jointly.

The Group was reminded that any temporary respite care for the district added pressure on Apples Medical resource for which there was no extra funding. Practice to continue to keep Patients Group informed.

NB Date of next meeting April 2023 to be advised.