

Pangbourne Medical Practice

PPG Meeting Minutes

Held on 21st February 2024 at 6.15 pm.

Present: Doreen Hawkins (chair), Kate McMahon, Kim Hiscutt, Brenda Hook, Linda Price, Louisa Nicoll, John Creagh, Diana Smith, Barry Ashdown, Kit Marriott, Rosie Barker, Dr Maddy Manjhadria

1 Introduction and changes in members

DH extends a warm welcome to everyone. We have no new members.

2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Sarah Dixon, Gill Reid

3 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

4 Cancer Screening programmes

We are persistently maintaining our efforts to adhere to cervical screening protocols.

RB noted our ongoing audit of 2-week-wait referrals and emphasized the continuation of our campaign on bowel cancer awareness."

DS underscored the option for individuals over the age of 75 to request screening for bowel cancer.

5 Surgery News and Update

We are pleased to announce that KT welcomed her baby, Sienna, in January. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to her.

KA has assumed responsibilities during KT's maternity leave, and we are highly satisfied with his exceptional contributions to patient care and the practice.

We continue to extend invitations to patients for Shingles and pneumococcal vaccines, with the second dose scheduled to commence from April onwards.

We have initiated the planning of the Spring COVID booster to patients, with clinics scheduled from Saturday, April 27th continuing into May, contingent upon logistical considerations.

RB explained that all patients over the age of 75 will be eligible for the Spring COVID-19 vaccine dose, while individuals aged 6 months and above with weakened immune systems are also being offered the vaccine.

DS mentioned that the availability of the Spring booster will be limited to select COVID hubs, and patients interested in obtaining the booster privately should be aware of this." Covid vaccines are not currently available privately.

RB informed that the previous appointment booking system will no longer be operational for the COVID Spring booster; instead, patients will likely be invited to contact us to book. Changes to this process will be implemented starting from April.

RB announced Olivia's departure from the nursing team effective March 1st, with Megan joining as the new nurse from March.

DH brought to attention the cessation of Pangbourne Magazine, possibly indicating a shift away from print media.

Various opinions were shared during the meeting, including the importance of keeping the community informed about local events. The Basildon publication does not cover Pangbourne news.

While a public noticeboard exists for sharing information, DS noted that magazines remain a preferred medium for some individuals, especially those without internet access.

6. Patient voice update – S. Dixon

No meeting has been held and no further updates from SD.

7. AOB

DH initiates the next agenda item, focusing on the Patient Participation Group (PPG) and discussing effective communication strategies for Boathouse patients.

DH observes a lack of awareness regarding the PPG and suggests updating information on the surgery website and notice board in waiting area accordingly.

DH then leads a group discussion on fundraising initiatives for the surgery. The Pulmolife device has been suggested but is no longer available. RB to suggest other projects. Fundraising – Art Cafe and books.

DH acknowledges the challenges associated with the Art Café concept, particularly regarding time and effort and the weather's impact on the Art Cafe's feasibility.

Despite concerns, KM emphasizes the potential of the Art Café idea if approached collaboratively, suggesting collective effort could make it a viable fundraising target.

It is agreed that KM, with support from BA, will organize the Art Café. KM to follow up with Art Cafe any available dates for a fund raising coffee morning.

KM emphasizes the need **not** to coincide Art Café events with significant village happenings.

3.

RB suggests promoting Art Café dates on the surgery website once finalized.

BH expresses satisfaction with the surgery's response to recent flooding incidents, commending the swift and professional management.

KH raises concerns about endoscopy waiting times at RBH, where the waiting period exceeds 18 months.

Information regarding the Berkshire West Community Endoscopy Service (BWCES) is provided, highlighting its shortened waiting times and non-sedation approach.

“We are based at the Spire Dunedin Hospital on the Bath Road in Reading and offer both Gastroscopy and Sigmoidoscopy. Our service operates every weekend, with 20 patients on Saturdays and Sundays, as well as some Fridays afternoons (10 patients). The waiting time from making an appointment to the procedure can be only 2-3 weeks now.” This is the Web site: [https:// www.berkshirewestcommunityendoscopy.nhs.uk](https://www.berkshirewestcommunityendoscopy.nhs.uk) for more information.

MM updates the group on Dr Evans' progress in her GP training, noting her exceptional patient care skills.

Progress reports on two paramedics, Mia, and Garry, are shared, highlighting their valuable contributions to meeting patient demands.

BH who is Secretary to the Pangbourne and District Volunteer Centre informs the group about the Pangbourne Volunteers' recruitment efforts for drivers to assist patients in accessing medical services across multiple locations.

BH presents statistics from the previous year, indicating the volume of journeys undertaken by Pangbourne Volunteers, with a significant portion directed to the Pangbourne surgery which meaning of 760 journey 30% to Pangbourne Surgery. Challenges associated with RBH parking are acknowledged. There is a shortage of drivers covering the Whitchurch area.

FFT – results were discussed. No additional comments.

PPG - Health promotion notice boards suggested topics - April – ovarian cancer – LN and DH to organise.

May – stress management LP and DS to organise.

The date and time for the next meeting is scheduled for 1st May at 6.15p.m.

