

Abbey Field Medical Centre

Patient Group Minutes – Tuesday 9 January @ 9.30am

Attendees : Nicky Young, Vi Haddow, Steve McDonough

Apologies : Michael Campbell & Hazel Law

Minutes of previous meeting were agreed.

Meetings : The timings of the meetings was discussed again. There is no perfect time for the meeting. However, the group that met agreed that we would meet during the day in the winter months and in the evening in the summer months; thus trying to accommodate as many people as possible. **This note will remain in the minutes so we do not forget what was agreed.**

Doctors : Dr Stubbings decided working as a Salaried GP did not suit him so he left at Christmas – as he had been with us less than 3 months he only had to give a weeks notice. This has meant we have had to rearrange lots of clinics at short notice. Dr Sidhu will return from maternity leave in March and work two days a week.

Nursing Team : We now have a very strong nursing team. Nurse Practitioners; Lesley, Barry, Becky, Michelle, Lianne and Sarah. Nurses; Effie, Linda, Hollie, Lauren and Nicole and HCA; Ella, Amanda, Linda and Lauren.

Administration & Reception : We recently recruited two apprentices; one on Reception and one in Administration.

List Size : Our list size is now 21410 which is an increase of 169 since we last met. In tandem with this all other work also increases. We are applying to see if we can trial the automatic read coding of letters but this is not feasible until May 2024. In the meantime the team will work additional hours to keep up to date with everything.

Garden : The garden project under the management of Abberton Rural Training (ART) & C360 continues to grow with more and more volunteers joining

Heart of Greenstead : The Architects are currently undertaking options appraisals on the various options for developing the site. There is one possible stumbling block. The Practice rent is reimbursed by NHS England. NHS England will only reimburse for space allocated to the Practice -therefore they will not reimburse for “shared” space. This is a concern because much of the cultural concept of the building is based on the premise of shared space and groups coming together e.g. in the kitchen etc. We will have to wait and see how this plays out but the Practice cannot afford to move if the rent is going to increase.

On Line Consultations : The “Contact Us On Line” button has now been made more prominent on our web site:-

<https://www.abbeyfieldmedicalcentre.co.uk/>

The phone lines promote this method of contacting the practice for non-emergency appointments. If all the appointments for the day are gone patients are also directed to the web site.

All the messages received via Contact Us On Line are triaged in the normal way. In many instances a clinician can respond back to a patient without any need to speak to them – this is proving an extremely efficient way of managing appointments. If a clinician does need to review a patient they are given an appointment

Car Park : The C3 decided not to participate in the Car Registration Recognition Scheme whereby all cars parked on site would have to be registered otherwise they would be fined. Therefore we cannot progress this idea. Building work on the Pharmacy starts in February/March so parking will be even more difficult then.

Social Prescribing : The Practice employees Social Prescribers from C360. We have had some problems with continuity of staff etc. and have therefore not been able to gain any traction on the programmes of work we needed undertaken. However Inez has now joined – so we are hoping she will pick up the programmes of work e.g. contacting people newly diagnosed with cancer, contacting the next of kin of people who have died etc.

Development on Firing Range

<https://www.gazette-news.co.uk/news/19118544.plan-build-1-000-homes-former-ministry-defence-firing-range/>

Vi brought this to Nicky's attention. Nicky will follow up with NHS Estates to see if there is any section 106 money linked to this development.

Meeting Ended 09.45am