

# PPG Meeting Minutes

08 November 2018

Junction Alkington Surgery  
Patient Participation Group

## Minutes of meeting

### Attended

SC, JH, LM, RP, RU, REP

### Apologies

EB, JK, DH, KD,SB,NC

### RVS Update - Ruth Parsons

Ruth introduced herself and provided an update relating to the Royal Voluntary Service. Ruth is an NHS worker, and is also training as psychotherapist. She will be the point of contact and coordinator for the practice based visiting service. Kevin Brady will be volunteer coordinator and will be invited to next meeting. Ruth will be based at the Practice. Kevin is meeting a requirement from RVS. Ruth will be overseeing training, and will be able to facilitate personal or online training.

Ruth will be assessing service users to ensure suitability. Some patients will need social services input rather than RVS. By assessing service users Ruth is safeguarding volunteers + patients. The benefit to her being part of the NHS already is that she can attend huddles with the district nurses (RVS couldn't attend these due to being none NHS). With regards to existing volunteers and training - it is likely that volunteers that have already done the training won't have to re-do it.

SC - We should only be doing this for our patients. If volunteers choose to see others, thanks fine, but that the individual's choice - from the Practice's perspective, there should be no expectation on volunteers to see anyone other than patients of the Practice. That was one of the things where things fell apart previously and Miranda didn't seem to quite grasp this - yes we are a branch of RVS, but it was always supposed to be a Practice based service. Things do sound more positive and hopefully there will be more success this time no it's more internal.

Ruth will attend the PPG meetings when possible to provide updates.

### Chairman's Update

Discussed Locality groups and the problems that there have been. We've recently received an invite to a locality meeting over in Rochdale. It seems they've given up cultivating a locality group for Heywood and Middleton, and have opted to just open up the Rochdale group to them instead (though SC wasn't contacted about it). SC has written to the CCG expressing that Middleton groups feel abandoned. How do they expect to get Middleton patients to attend in Rochdale, when they wouldn't even attend in Middleton?! We don't have any input from CCG, and there is no link to the other groups, we don't know how the other groups are doing, or if they even exist. The idea is great, but the implementation has been difficult. Attendance seems to have dropped in the existing PPGs, and there are no PPGs in certain places even though it's a requirement that each GP surgery has a PPG. The CCG can't beat people into attending, but at the same time it did feel like the CCG weren't putting enough emphasis and work in to get PPGs established. Rochdale + Littleborough seem to be thriving, but they have given up on the Middleton group and told them they can come to Rochdale. And yet we've not seen a CCG member in over 12m.

SC raised query regarding patient forms for GPs and how they are normally actioned. Relates to a form that was handed in for the Heartline club in Middleton. JH reports that there appears to have been a confusion as to whether these forms are accepted or not. The Practice do not as a general rule do gym forms as we could not comment on whether or not someone is able to do certain exercises or not. Legally if the GP says someone can do something, then they go and do some

exercise and have a heart attack, we'd be in trouble, so it looks like the Heartline form has been confused with a gym form. We will update our protocols to try to ensure Heartline forms are accepted going forward.

Discussed flu vaccination uptake.

**AOB**

LM noticed that the chair in Room 3 at Alkrington is looking very worse for wear, could we arrange for this to be replaced at some point.

Date of next meeting 4pm on Thursday the 10th of January.