

**Thurleigh Road Practice Patient Participation Group
Meeting on Teams on 29th July 2021 at 5.30pm**

Minutes

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Viv Taylor Gee (It is unlikely that Viv will be able to continue membership as she has a new post as a Councillor in Bexhill) and Kate Swinburne

In attendance (via Microsoft Teams):

Sue Stern - Chair

Patricia Kwella

Shushma Leidig – Practice Manager

Sue Marshall

Grace McLeary – Reception Manager

Dr Shazia Ovaisi – GP Partner

Suzy Pawlak

Janice Price

Ivor Rawlinson

Sandra Reeves – Management Partner

Gwen Rosen (minute taker)

Sara Turner

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

Sandra corrected item no.4. A sentence should read "They had asked the Southwest London CCG for help". Linelle Best is the new Healthcare Assistant.

3. Sarah Jayne Stanes

Sue Stern read out to members Sue Marshall's memories of Sarah Jayne who died recently. Sue Stern will write a condolence card from this Group and deliver it to the family home in Thurleigh Rd.

4. Finance

Gwen Rosen is working with NatWest bank to make necessary changes to the post of Treasurer.

5. News from the Practice

a) Current ways of working

The main entrance door is now open and so is the waiting room. The hours of opening are now from 7.30am - 6.30pm, with clinics running until 7pm. The door is open from 8am to 6.30pm. Sandra said that the Practice was slowly and surely providing more access and face to face meetings. The Practice is trying to get a locum GPs, but this is proving difficult because of the acute shortage of GPs nationally.

b) Dr Ovaisi reported that the Practice will take a leading role in phase 3 of the Covid vaccine programme which begins in September. Booster vaccinations will be delivered possibly at the same time as the flu vaccination. Members of the group were asked to try to recruit volunteers to help with this phase. Volunteers are particularly needed at the weekend. Anyone who wants to volunteer should contact the Practice via email swlccg.thurleighroadpractice@nhs.net.

c) Premises sale

The three doctors who own the Practice are currently selling the premises. This is still ongoing but the company whose bid has been accepted is Primary Health Properties (PHP) who own about 300 GP surgeries. The change of ownership should not influence the way the Practice is run, and services delivered. However, there is no clear idea of the timescale of the sale. If you want more information, PHP have a website.

6. GP Data and NHS Digital Type 1 Opt-out

Shushma gave short presentation and introduced this topic. A Type 1 opt-out has been around since 2013 and have been re-introduced in May 2021. This allows patients to object to any confidential patient information i.e., name, date of birth or any identifiable information to NHS Digital.

Recently this choice has become more publicised and debated. If patients wish to opt out there is a form to do this on the Practice website [Type 1 Opt-out Information – Thurleigh Road NHS Practice \(thurleighroadpractice.nhs.uk\)](http://thurleighroadpractice.nhs.uk).

It is important for patients to know how patients' data can help the NHS to:

- ▶ Monitor the long-term safety and effectiveness of care
- ▶ Plan how to deliver better health and care services
- ▶ Prevent the spread of infectious diseases
- ▶ Identify new treatments and medicines through health research
- ▶ Scientists researching medicines

Sue Stern said this is an important decision to make and that NHS information has been and is being used for our benefit.

The deadline to opt-out is set for 1st September 2021.

7. CCG procurement of online consultation software for triage

Sara reported back about the software for three apps for medical consultation being considered for purchase by the CCG. Discussion stressed the importance that this should be only a part of the triage options for patients and personal contact with clinicians must be retained.

There is already a Doctor Link app on the Practice website and patients can register to use this consultation app.

8. Virtual Group

Sue Stern reported back on the work being carried out to email all patients about setting up a virtual group of people who are interested in news and information about services at the Thurleigh Rd Practice and the NHS. This email is going to be sent out in the next few weeks to all 14500 patients and it is hoped to get a response from a hundred or more patients who wish to participate in a virtual group.

9. AOB

None

10. Next meeting

30 September 2021 at 5.30pm.