



Cleobury Patients' Voice

"Bringing together patients, health professionals and voluntary groups to improve the health and social support services of our community."

Minutes of Meeting –3rd August 2015 at 6.30 pm

Present: Joan Fisher (JF), Sue Del Mar (SDM), Katie-Rose Smith (KRS), Marion Martin (MM), Rosie Bond (RB), Gill Davies (GD), Brian Davies (BD), Jenny McCrorie (JM), Kevin Burrows (KB), Rod Stewart (RS), Kate Jones (KJ), Stephen Andrews (SA)

Also present: Val Simpson (VS) Community Car Scheme; Mark Radford (MR); Steve Gregory (SG), Director of Nursing and Operations and Dr M Ganesh (MG), Medical Director – Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust

Apologies: Pat Greig (PG), Jo Booton (JB),

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<p>Closure of ward at Ludlow Hospital</p>	<p>JF welcomed Steve Gregory to the meeting and he presented the following information in relation to the closure of one of the wards at Ludlow Hospital.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Beds have been reduced from 40 to 24. 2. Every effort will be made to maintain standards of care. 3. One reason for the closure is that the length of stay at Ludlow has reduced over the years due to better care and more social care in the community in the Ludlow and Cleobury area - this has reduced the average length of stay to less than two weeks. 4. It is very difficult to recruit staff, especially registered nurses for two wards. The Trust is setting up training places but this will take time. It was noted that pressure needs to be put on the Government if they try to make nurses pay for their training and more need to be trained than are currently required 5. Despite overloading at the acute hospitals resulting in more patients being sent to Ludlow, the number of beds occupied was around 24 6. It has been decided to mothball Stretton and have 24 beds in Dinham 7. SG hoped that as the number of beds had been reduced the Clinical Commissioning Group would be able to fund more community care. 8. SG assured the members that Ludlow hospital would not close <p>SA clarified points raised by SG. JM said that the trust should be held to account and SG apologised that there had not been any consultation. GD reported that she had attended the recent public meeting where there had been strong opposition to the changes. MG reiterated that the arrangement was also because of safety. There was not enough qualified staff to facilitate two wards and also we should be moving to community care which is closer to home or at home</p> <p>MM asked if the hospital could cope with more than 24 beds. SG replied that they were trying to recruit more staff to allow for this</p>	

	<p>contingency. Pay Bands 1 to 4 would be adequate and courses were being set up, such as the one at Staffordshire university, starting at Band 1. He also said that Government do not recognise that rural communities cost much more to operate than urban ones.</p> <p>The Trust is also trying to get private providers to help with community care.</p> <p>KRS asked if the number of Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists would be reduced. The answer was no. She told the meeting that she had had to wait two days for a bed at Ludlow.</p> <p>SG gave the following number of available beds -</p> <p>Bridgnorth 25 beds Whitchurch 36 beds Bishops Castle 16 beds</p> <p>MM suggested that the Trust went into schools to recruit.</p> <p>KJ asked when SG knew of the ward closure. He knew that beds were not being filled but the two wards were kept open because of winter escalation - this lasted until July,</p> <p>RB stated that as Maternity had moved to Telford patients would be worried that the same thing could happen to other services at Ludlow.</p> <p>SG was thanked for his presentation and the group agreed that some concerns had been answered although the group was keen to see how the hospital would cope during the winter. SG agreed to attend on October 26th to update us on progress.</p> <p>Agreed by the group</p>	
<p>Action Notes, June 22nd</p> <p>Community Car Scheme</p>	<p>VS joined the meeting and gave a presentation on the current state of the Scheme. She will be retiring next year after 5 years and was concerned as to its future.</p> <p>A large proportion of users come from places outside Cleobury such as Doddington, Corely, Crumpbrook, Stottesdon and Highley. They also need to be taken to hospitals as far afield as Coventry.</p> <p>Dental appointments have also increased.</p> <p>She has had to cancel requests for transport for shopping, hairdressing and Post Office visits. Exceptions are made for Lawyer and CAB visits.</p> <p>The Hospital car Service only allows the patient to use the facility and often the patient needs a carer for support.</p> <p>Also if there is only one driver in the household a problem arises if they are admitted to the Hospital after a visit.</p> <p>Shropshire Transport Services pay for 67% of the journey and the user pays the rest.</p> <p>The driver is paid mileage from his or her home.</p> <p>There are 10 volunteer drivers in the Scheme at present.</p> <p>VS asked if the Surgery could take on the task of taking the booking requests as this was such a time consuming element for the Volunteers</p> <p>SA said that the surgery could help and he would set up a meeting with VS.</p>	<p>SA</p>
<p>Fund Raising</p>	<p>SA thanked GD for her excellent Coffee morning which raised £120. The concert which was due to be held in September was cancelled due to increased costs which made the event non-viable.</p>	<p>SA</p>

	GD had been very active in securing funds for the surgery and was thanked by the group.	
Telephone line	SA to put message on the phone with the added item "We will endeavour to return your call within 7 days" SDM to check once a week. The number needs to be put on the "Clarion" special numbers list and on the Practice website. CPV meetings need to be publicised in the Clarion	SA/SDM
Website	The item on CPV is now on the Practice website.	
Resignations	Hazel Morrell and Glenys Turpin have resigned due to other commitments	
Agenda Items	Due to the lengthy discussions on the changes at Ludlow Hospital and the community car scheme all other items were postponed until the next meeting	JF

Next Meeting – Monday 14th September at 6.30 pm, The Medical Centre