MEETING OF THE RIDGE PRIMARY CARE NETWORK (PCN)

HELD ON MONDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2024 – BEARSTED SURGERY

Notes of Meeting – Compiled by Goff Norrington

1. **Present** – Dr. Hanna Warren – Bearsted Practice. (Ridge PCN Clinical Director)

Carol McKeough – Len Valley Practice. (PPG Deputy Chair)

Jacky Offen – Sutton Valence Practice. (PPG chair)

Goff Norrington – Bearsted Practice (Committee Member)

1. **Welcome & Introductions** – CM (meeting Chair) welcomed all & opened the meeting.
2. Notes from meeting on 9th September 2024 were read & agreed.

**Matters Arising –** Three items were raised which were covered during the course of the meeting.

Item 4: Quantities of AAR’s & Social prescribing leaflets. (Point 5 below)

Item 5: RSV vaccinations. (Point 11 below)

Item 8: Out of area Patient Controls/Meeting with Helen Whateley. (Point 8 below)

1. **Social Prescriber** – Dannii has had difficulty in finding working space in surgeries & as a result is now working more from home, surgery visits continue to be made on an ad hoc basis plus as & when necessary. Dannii’s workload is steady but not overwhelming & with this in mind, HW has recruited her into the new frailty scheme. (See item 6). Dannii will not attend PCN meeting on a regular basis but will keep PCN members updated on items as necessary, either via HW or direct to PCN members.
2. **AAR’s & Social Prescribing Leaflets** – 500 of each were printed but now appear to be in short supply!! Both have been well received by medical staff & patients to the extent that we may need a reprint but before committing to this cost, are there spare quantities lying around anywhere?

**Action** – HW to check with Sarah Harrison & Langley, CM & JO to check with their respective surgeries & advise GN who will collate & if necessary, arrange a reprint.

1. **PCN/ICB Update** –

* The frailty programme is moving at pace with The Ridge PCN being appointed by the K&MICB as a Frailty Hub!! Extra funding has been granted to the PCN to cover additional staffing & system costs.

**Action** - HW to circulate a full brief on the ‘Frailty Hub’ set up to all meeting members.

* The Ridge PCN is currently operating within its AAR’s budget but costs created by the recently announced N.I. & minimum wage increases will have a significant impact??
* As part of the NHS ‘Digital Front Door’ drive, the ICB will fully fund the iPlato data processing system & support surgeries in their use of either the Accurx, Anima or Emis triage systems, However, whereas the ICB currently fund the messaging part of the services (£32,000) with surgeries funding the triage part (£9,000), from April 2025 the ICB will fund the triage part & surgeries will have to fund the messaging bit???

Cont….

1. **Accurx –** Len Valley continues to resist the use of the Accurx on line triage system which could result in a loss of funding from the ICB in the April budget review!! HW is still positive that LV will eventually implement the system but if not & all else fails, HW will go to the ICB budget review with a begging bowl (& of course dog) to plead the Ridge PCN case!!
2. **Meeting With Helen Whateley –** JO reported on her meeting with HW which was disappointing & very little is expected to come from it!! CM was the only other member from the Ridge PCN who attended, GN was excluded because he resides in Helen Grant’s political ward!!
3. **Kevin Godfrey -** Kevin is Commercial Director of the BDR group based in Aylesford who are an IT & telecommunications company. Working at a primary care level with the NHS, GN met with Kevin with a view to him joining the Bearsted PPG committee but in discussions, it emerged that BDR were doing a lot of work with Medway Community Healthcare on a patient portal which sends out ‘updates’ to patients en mass. About to start a trial with a Medway PCN the thought occurs, is there anything in this for the Ridge PCN and/or its linked surgeries?

**Action –** GN to contact Louise Twist with details.

1. **General –** GN advised the meeting Fiona Brown is the new Chair for Bearsted PPG, Fiona will take up attendances at PPG chairs meetings & its associated functions, GN will retain his PCN role.

An early suggestion from Fionawas that Bearsted shouldjoin theNational Association for Patient Participation. This is an organisation formed to help & provide support for all PPG’s, with news, updates & advice plus a PPG ‘on line’ communication forum. Membership is £80 p.a.

**Action –** GN to send out NAPP info & details to CM & JO.

1. **AOB –** GN produced a very much ‘out of date’ pictorial chart of PCN staff members, their roles & where they are based.

The question of those patients who had missed the ‘block’ immunisation clinic was also raised, how do they now get their RSV jab? HW advised no more ‘block’ sessions were planned but the RSV vaccine was still available to those eligible (75 to 79), patients to make an appointment with a practice nurse.

**Action –** HW to update the PCN pictorial chart & circulate.

1. **2025 Meeting Dates** – All Meetings at Bearsted Surgery at 10.00 am.

Monday 10th March – Chair GN, Meeting Notes JO

Monday 9th June

Monday 8th September

Monday 8th December