

# **DRS SHAMSEE, WARD, WILDING & ASSOCIATES**

**Slaithwaite Health Centre**

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**'Every patient is the only patient'**

## **Minutes of Patient Participation Group Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016 @ 6.30pm**

**Attendees:** Dr James Ward (GP Partner), Kelda Childs (Operational Manager), Brian Turner, Kevin Souter, Robert Bamforth, Jill Brewer, Christine Shepherd, Mike Ardley.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Minutes of the last meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were made available for review.

### **Matters Arising:**

- **Funding cuts:** Dr Ward gave an update on the PMS funding cuts. The practice is still receiving the same funding at present. There is an on-going, patient initiated legal challenge to NHS England and the proposed cuts. After much silence, NHS England has finally responded to a letter. However, little is happening in terms of negotiation. No meeting date with NHS England has been arranged. The question was asked as to how the judicial review will be funded. It is understood that the solicitor is looking into securing legal aid. Come April, there will be a move to co-commissioning with the CCG. There is national concern around general practice funding. 21 practices nationally have signed up to the Family Doctor SOS campaign. The next 6 to 12 months are going to prove an interesting time for general practice.

**Proposed Changes to Hospital Services:** The public consultation process is now underway. A series of drop-in sessions and public meetings have been scheduled. The Examiner A&E battlebus is to visit Slaithwaite Health Centre. So far, there has been inadequate explanation of the new proposed clinical model. Hopefully, more information for the public is going to come from the consultation process. Definitely need to make it clearer exactly what is being proposed, so people can make informed decisions. Everyone has been let down by a lack of communication, but is it already a done deal? Will have to wait and see what come of the consultation process.

**Group Constitution:** When the current PPG started, it was quite informal and relaxed. It has now become a more formal, structured process and, as such, requires a written constitution. Members will also be asked to read and sign confidentiality agreements. The PPG at Holmfirth already have a constitution. It was agreed that this could be looked at as a starting point for developing a constitution for the Slaithwaite group.

**Web Consult GP:** Dr Ward explained about a new e-consultation service that the practice is considering utilising in the future. This will be a conjunctive service with current services and will not be a replacement for them. It is a consultation/triage process done on-line. Patients will be asked to fill in questions relating to their symptoms, etc. The results of the questionnaires will be passed to the GPs who then review them and decide upon the appropriate treatment and service. This will actually increase the number of contacts with patients, but will decrease the time spent on lengthy appointments, leading to greater efficiency. Doctors will be able to help more patients in less time. The service has been designed in conjunction with the CQC and the medical defence unions and has their backing. Dr Ward stressed that this was an additional feature the practice could use to direct patients to the most appropriate service/person.

**AOB:** There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.45pm.