

PPG Newsletter April 2022

Introduction

This is my first newsletter since taking over the Chair from Carole Cook. Carole remains on the committee and is a continuing support to me. Our committee now totals ten non Practice staff members, two of whom have joined us this year.

Telephone

I hope that you, the patients of the Practice, are finding the new telephone system to be efficient in meeting your needs in what is a very changed service delivery environment.

Website

The Practice website is extremely comprehensive and easy to navigate. However I would emphasise that while for many of us that is the case, not all people necessarily have the experience or indeed the facility to embrace the digital aspect. Hence, if you know of people in that situation please help them.

For those who use the internet facility, the 'On Line Consulting Room' found in the Appointments Section allows you to post a non-urgent request for help/advice and to be answered within 48 hours, is an excellent service.

Healthwatch and Just Ask

Central Bedfordshire Healthwatch has re-started its 'Just Ask' roadshow visiting towns across the County and will be visiting Dunstable outside Asda supermarket on the morning of Friday 8th April.

Organisations that will be on hand to help will be Age UK Bedfordshire, More Life, (which addresses so many lifestyle health aspects) and Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) Vaccination Engagement team.

If you are signed up to Central Bedfordshire Council 'news-sites' you will of course be aware of these and other activities.

Covid Vaccine Programme

Like all I am encouraged by the progress made by our scientists to overcome the Covid virus. I wish to thank the dedication of our Practice team including those PPG members able to help in delivering the vaccine programme not just

for West Street patients, but as part of a group for patients of other Practices in the town.

Environment

The clocks have gone forward, allowing evening outdoor activities which for many will be in the garden or allotment. It will also enable some of the PPG committee members to take care of the shrubs bordering the car park area and keep the weeds down.

I wish you well for the summer months.

Chris Dilnot.

PPG Chair.