

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (ARGYLE PRACTICE)

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON

Wednesday 24th January 2018

Attendees:

Dennis Evans (Chairman), Chris Taylor (Hon. Sec.), Judith Scourfield (Practice Manager), Jenny Nicholas, Lucie-Jane Whelan (Hywel Dda UHB), Tony Wales, Brian Phelan, Stephen O'Connor, Jane Gammon (Argyle), Dr. Richard Bury

Apologies: Helen Heaton (Healthy Lifestyles), Andrea Howard, Colin Beech, Rose Blackburn.

1. **DE** welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Resignations

DE announced that Helen Heaton was leaving her post, and would therefore not be attending further meetings.

3. **DE** apologised for the short notice, but in view of the current situation relating to the proposed closure of Neyland surgery, felt that a meeting was required to establish the view of the PPG.

A full and frank discussion then ensued, with everybody conscious that the root of the problem lay with the acute shortage of doctors, and the inability to recruit staff to the Practice. In view of this the Practice had proposed the withdrawal of all services at Neyland, and concentrate staff more effectively at Argyle Street and Pembroke.

LJW representing HDB read a prepared statement briefly saying that on-going discussions were taking place, and all stakeholders, including the PPG would be contacted in writing regarding the problem.

Apart from the statement **LJW** was not prepared to comment further or answer questions.

After further discussion the main meeting closed and the Argyle staff and **LJW** left.

4. discussion then ensued as to the position and action of the PPG in view of the current situation. **DE** had prepared a letter recognising the situation but stressing the concern for patients in Neyland who would experience genuine difficulties accessing Argyle Street. After some discussion it was felt that the letter should also stress that all other options be considered, before implementing the only option presented to date.

The final version of the letter would be circulated before being sent to relevant stakeholders.

5. **The meeting closed at 1815 hrs.** and it was agreed the next scheduled **meeting for 5th February** would take place in view of the ongoing situation.