

Minutes of Yell Health Support Group meeting held on 12th May 2010 in Yell Health Centre at 7:00pm

Present: Angus, Annette, Mark, Rosie, Dan, Julia and Patricia.

Apologies: Rae, Robert, Naomi, Winnie and Charlie

Patricia apologised for forgetting to tell Alexis about this meeting!!

Minutes of last meeting were read and agreed.

Matters arising:

Planters: Rosie will speak to Youth Club again about painting the planters.

Door between reception areas: The door is now blocked up so there are no longer any patient confidentiality issues. Sensor lights have been purchased for outside and will be fitted soon. This will mean that the bright outside lights will not be on all night!

Ambulance matters: The idea of a private ambulance seems to have died a death and there is now a second ambulance run from Lerwick. Naomi had a recent ambulance case and she was unsure whether the ambulance crew that met her in Toft were paramedics or first responders. Mark will check how the second ambulance is staffed, ie paramedics, technicians, first responders or a mixture of these.

The ambulance is now plugged into Robert Goodlad's shed. This does not help in winter when his steep road is covered in snow. The snowplough did go down once but ran into problems so SIC decided it would not do this again until junction is improved. Dan will get Community Council to check on this issue. It was agreed that this issue needs to be resolved before another winter.

Parking spaces: NHS Shetland said that they had no money to create more parking spaces at the health centre.

Meeting of 12th May

Website: Following discussions with staff at the health centre it was agreed to try to develop the Yell Health Centre website and it was thought that it would be unfair to ask the Support Group to continue to support this since it would be more expensive. Naomi's husband, Nanning, has looked into websites providers and has found a company who specialise in health centre sites. They would help develop the site and sort out security, etc. Mark took the opportunity to thank the Support Group for funding the set up and running of the website for the first few years.

Volunteer drivers: Patricia asked if volunteer drivers' mileage payment could be increased in light of recent fuel price rises. Annette said that 40p mile was the government's upper limit for mileage. After discussion, it was agreed to increase the rate to 50p per mile but to call it reimbursement (or similar) rather than mileage payment.

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Youth club posters: Youth club had produced "Stop smoking" posters and Lesley Gray had left them at the surgery for display and judging. Members agreed on a winner and Patricia will let Lesley know.

Equipment: It was agreed to purchase some more "Treat your own back" and "Treat your own neck" books. These are by far the most popular in the library.

Mark showed a U-tube video of a piece of equipment for self-treating BPPV (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo). It is called "Dizzy fix". The idea would be a patient would see the GP for a diagnosis and the manoeuvre would be tried. If this helps and the condition recurs the patient could be given the dizzy fix hat to try for themselves at home. It was agreed to purchase one of these.

Flu clinics: Everybody (patients and clinicians) felt that holding the flu clinics at the public halls was a great success. It enabled a large number of patients to be vaccinated in a short space of time. Mark and Rosie felt there was a fundraising opportunity here. Patients have to wait for 10 minutes before they can leave the building so tea, coffee, home bakes or biscuits could be provided! The support group could organise this for one venue and the other venues could be offered to other, preferably some type of health related, charities.

Raffle: The raffle raised £335. It was agreed to hold another this Christmas, but to make it a general Christmas hamper. It was also agreed to publicise it better this year though.

AGM to be organised for end of August or start of September, when Karl Thomas has audited the accounts.