

PPG MINUTES- 1st March 2017

Surgery update

Medical secretary is leaving so one of the receptionists is moving into this role as part of succession planning. Created vacancies in the reception team. So there will be some new receptionists.

There is a surgery clear out this weekend to help create a new clinical room hopefully by April.

The external building is being painted post 1st April.

New GP Contract-

some extra funding for practices to cover CQC fees and the rise in professional indemnity fees.

The unplanned admissions register is being replaced by a frailty register- we don't really know what this will look like yet but there is likely to be a tool to use to identify these patients.

The GMS1 form is being revised to try and identify patients that are non EU who are not entitled to NHS care.

Part of the GP forward view is looking at ways to work in primary care that will make GP practices more resilient for the future to help protect against fewer doctors being available. The maltings along with some other practices are investigating whether a practice pharmacist may be a viable option. We would like patient views. A survey will be in the next newsletter and on our website. Please take part. The group thought this sounded like a good idea.

Social prescribing

Alan talked about this new project which has just started, 17 volunteers. 12 month pilot which then might mean it is rolled out to other surgeries. Called the Maltings wellbeing team. Need an evaluation framework for it. It is being organised in conjunction with the CVS. Surgeries are quite reactive places, social prescribing can be more proactive.

What support is there for the social prescriber- the surgery team.

Your care Your future meeting for the St Albans locality

General feeling was that it wasn't a very realistic meeting as no money to do the proposed plans.

Hemel hospital is closing, St Albans will be for planned care and Watford will be redesigned and improved to be acute care. Will not be finished until late 20's.

Hospital things are being pushed into the community, pushing care closer to home by way of hubs but a St Albans and Harpenden hub has not materialised.

Alan has asked David Evans (in charge of Your Care Your Future) for a one to one meeting which he will record for radio Verulam. St Albans has closed 39 step down beds, rapid response is supposed to assess in the home. PPG is going to make representation to Nicholas Small asking for an action plan as to how they are going to deal with the loss of these beds. Also to confirm what other services are being looked at for cuts.

Cutting of NHS vasectomies- another cut that raises concerns. This is a service that is a luxury and not essential so it has gone

Next meeting May 3rd at 7pm.