**Fern House Patient Participation Group (PPG) Meeting Newsletter**

**7th November 2018 at 6pm**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Who was there***From the practice: Practice Managers Lorraine and Sarah; Reception Manager Sandie and Dr C. Wright PPG Members: Marian (Chair) John, Ruth, Margaret, Donna, Marylyn, Sandra.*If you want to join this group please speak to a member of reception.*Look out for the next PPG run coffee morning in April 19 | ***Update from the practice***Sarah, Lorraine and Sandie (new reception manager) reported on:* Extended Hours scheme for local practices

Weekdays 6.30pm-8.30pm and weekends 8am – 2pm. Fern House patients can attend Halstead/ Braintree or Chelmsford centresBook or cancel appointments as usual.* Flu clinics for under / over 65s
 |
| ***Update from the Chair***Marian reported on:* NHS 70th Birthday coffee morning held on July 4th. We will do this again in April 2019
* Move towards social prescribing in mid Essex and the ways in which PPG could get involved to support the practice.
* Availability of a list of health speakers who would be happy to address groups in Witham

The next meeting will be in May 2019 | ***Issues from the patient attendees***John reported on:* Work with practice staff to improve notice boards and communications. The group congratulated John and Spencer (Care Navigator) on improvements. John is also researching electronic noticeboard options
* local walking group opportunities for patients to improve physical and mental wellbeing – to be included in social prescribing information

Donna asked for clarification regarding pharmacist role with Mental Health medications.Ruth asked if the proposed multi GP surgery for Witham was progressing. |