**Minutes of the PPG meeting held on Friday 17th March.**

Sue Tribe, our Chair, welcomed the group and began with a update on our Primary Care Network (PCN).

We, the Elmswood Surgery PPG (Patient Participation Group) have a concern about patient participation, or lack of it, in the running of our PCN.

As we have had no response to a number of communications we have sent to the PCN, we have had no opportunity to influence the current actions of the PCN.

We are aware that every PCN has a sum of money.  Dr Mike Crowe at Hucknall Surgery is in charge of finance for our group of 9 surgeries. However, we have had no opportunity to influence how that money is spent.

As that money ends in 12 months' time, Sue intends to email Mike Crowe next week requesting a meeting.  At that meeting Sue will express our unhappiness with the current lack of communication and direction.

She will attempt to ascertain if and how that money is being spent and whether we have benefitted fully from that spend.

We recognise that currently we do have the benefit of an excellent Pharmacist for 2 days a week and hopefully throughout next year.  We also share a Social Prescriber.

Emma explained that the PCN allocates the various resources (Pharmacists etc) to the surgeries based on the needs of each surgery.

The referral practice in both cases was raised when Catherine asked how we access the Pharmacist,  Emma explained how it worked, but said she would further clarify how one contacts them and report back.

Amanda asked whether the PCN's have to implement what they had planned for, and Ian clarified that situation - it appears not.

Alan asked to for an explanation about the current structure - PCN / ICB etc - and their responsibilities.

Amanda asked for an update on two issues.  Firstly "Diversity", and secondly the "International Clinical Trials Day".  On that second point, Emma said she would talk to Dr Coleman.

Emma then talked about the various issues our surgery has recently had to manage, including the various strikes within the NHS.

She then intimated that the waiting area in our surgery was to receive a "face-lift".  Sue requested the acquisition of a clock.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 19th April at 6.30pm.