**Minutes of the Patient Participation Group held at Wawn Street Surgery on**

**11th January 2018 at 6pm.**

1. Chair welcomed 6 members, a doctor from the surgery and two guests to the meeting.

The two guests were from a neighbouring PPG. The Chair invited them to give a short presentation to the Wawn Street PPG. It was noted that the neighbouring PPG was composed of 9 to 12 members; had invited speakers to inform their group about specific topics; held their meetings at 3pm so that a doctor was able to attend; meetings were informal and referred to as a ‘patients’ forum’. There was discussion relating to attendance at the Patient Reference Group (PRG) and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). It was noted that this neighbouring group operated in a similar way to Wawn Street PPG. On concluding their presentation the guests were thanked, by the Chair and members, and left the meeting.

1. Apologies were given for three members. No apologies from two members.
2. There were no new members to be welcomed.
3. The minutes of the 2nd November 2017 meeting were accepted as an accurate record. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting, also held on 2nd November 2017, were accepted as an accurate record.
4. There were matters arising from the previous minutes: Dr Gill described two types of extended access which were now operational. Firstly, there was the extended Wawn Street surgery times on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. This extended access was continually monitored. Secondly, extended access was now available through the South Tyneside Federation, from 1st September 2017, resulting in patients having access to a doctor from 7am to 8pm, seven days a week. This service was provided by all of the surgeries in the ST Federation: Wawn Street doctors providing cover on Monday and Tuesday from 7am to 8pm. Other surgeries contributed on other days of the week.
5. Reports
6. Doctor Gill updated the PPG on developments in the surgery. Currently Drs Bhalla, Gill and Hughes are partners in the practice and Drs Walsh and Smith are

salaried GPs. Dr Hand and another doctor are locum doctors. A nurse-practitioner is in post. A bid had been made to the NHS in order to extend the building – specifically to house patient records and increase confidentiality for patients at reception. Further, the bid was to finance the installation of a lift in the building.

1. Members: the minutes of the Patient Reference Group (PRG), attended by one member, were distributed to the PPG. The contents of these minutes were noted by members and there was discussion over a few items.
2. Questions / comments from members: a question was asked about the Pharmacy First programme and how it is monitored and a further question related to diabetes. Both questions led to discussion with Dr Gill in which she helpfully elaborated on these issues. Pharmacy First, a CCG initiative, requires pharmacies to keep records and advise patients to see their GP when necessary. Over 3 million people have diabetes in the UK and 700 people are diagnosed with diabetes every day.
3. AOB: the proposed changes to South Shields General Hospital and the amalgamation of services with Sunderland was briefly discussed. Members were concerned over travelling times and difficulties – the Chair informed the PPG that the “Health Watch” organisation was monitoring this.
4. Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 6th March 2018.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm.