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**PPG**

**Minutes from meeting on 18th November 2015**

**Surgery Update**

Dr Ali gave an update on the surgery. Explaining about the new Nurse Practitioner that we have who deals with urgent care. This in turn helps the GP’s giving them more appointments available as they are not acting as duty doctor as much.

Our Health Care Assistant Yoshi Bunce will also be taking on more hours in the afternoon.

With the winter pressures and demand on urgent appointments, the doctors are adding more telephone triage appointments and also extra consultations to their clinics.

We also have two new medical receptionists who joined us in the summer, they are both experienced medical receptionists who have a lot of experience working in surgeries.

We have now purchased another 24 hour blood pressure monitor, so are able to carry out more tests.

Carers Network – fortnightly at Manor Drive. If you are a carer and want some help or advice you can make an appointment at reception.

**Dementia Awareness Talk**

Given by Nancy from Halo Home Care who is also a Dementia Champion, one of her jobs is to raise awareness of Dementia.

Nancy spoke about Dementia Awareness and explained that Dementia is more prevalent, currently there are 850,000 people suffering with Dementia in this country.

A lot of work has been done particularly in Kingston CCG to try and diagnose patients with Dementia at an early stage.

Dementia is not a natural part of ageing.

It is caused by a disease of the brain

Its not just about losing your memory

It is possible to live with dementia

There is more to a person than dementia.

1 in 6 people over 80 have dementia

More information can be found at alzheimers.org.uk, or national dementia helpline on 0300 222 1122.