Mortimer Patient Participation Group (PPG)

A packed St John's Village Hall was the venue for the public event ‘Health for the Future – How to get the most from your local surgery’ on June 7th organised by the Mortimer Surgery Patient Participation Group.

Introduced by Shirley Cullup, Mortimer PPG Chair, the first speaker was Dr Iain Rock, Senior Partner at the practice, who discussed the ways in which the services were being developed and how the public could best access and make use of the range available now and developing into the future.

Gemma Longmate then talked about how she and her colleague contributed as Paramedics, and the issues and challenges which they deal with regularly.

Sarah Morland, the new Social Prescriber, discussed the range of helpful organisations and groups that can be accessed for anyone who is struggling with personal or social issues, and how she could help people to find support when needed.

Finally Penny Palmer, the Practice Manager, discussed how she organised staff and facilities to provide the best possible experience for the public and to ensure the practice stayed on a sound footing financially.

A lively discussion between audience members and the panel of speakers followed, then some time was allowed for people to meet and talk to representatives of support organisations who had been invited to attend to display literature and talk to attendees. Six groups were present:- Age UK Berkshire, Dementia Connect, Time to Talk, West Berkshire Cost of Living Hub, Burghfield and Mortimer Volunteers and Calcot East Family Hub.

If you have questions or comments for the PPG please send them to [ppgmortimersurgery@gmail.com](mailto:ppgmortimersurgery@gmail.com) The next meeting will be on 13th July.

John Bagshaw, Vice Chair.