**Minutes of the meeting of the Patient Participation Group, Marton Medical Practice, Blackpool**

**Wednesday 21 March 2018**

**Present:** Eileen, (Chair), Anthea, Janet, Christine, Ruth, Marie (Practice Manager)

**Agenda**

1. **Welcome**. EB opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
2. **Changes in Nursing Team**. All the nursing team are now in place and all is going well. Further training is being provided to cover respiratory problems and other skills for the team in the future. The Pharmacist, Gerry, is now back at work. The surgery also has a new partner, Dr Sachdeva.
3. **Care Navigation**. This will begin at the start of April 2018. Marie gave examples: patients wanting help with depression will be signposted straight to Supporting Minds avoiding the need to see a GP; Contraception enquiries will go straight to the nursing team; Pregnancy to the Midwife team. The plan is to start with a short list of needs to divert from the GPs and slowly increase as patients and staff become more accustomed to the system. Text messages will be used for annual reviews, flu clinics, follow up appointments for blood tests and cancelled appointments wherever possible. In time this should free up GP time and appointments. The surgery is already seeing the benefits of patients being able to use texts to cancel appointments and this will increase as it interacts immediately with the system to free up appointments.
4. **Medicines Management / Prescribing Costs.** Marie distributed the Prescribing Budget Report for November and December 2017 which again showsMMP doing well and proscribing costs being reduced in spite of the patient list increasing by 2.68% as a result of a local practice closing and patients new to the area. GPS are not currently allowed by the CCG to close their lists. The CCG has produced a further list of branded drugs which are to be changed to generic drugs – a move which is projected to save about £1400 a month.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 16 May 2018. The Patient Survey for 2018 will be discussed.**