

**South Woodham Ferrers Health and Social Care Group**  
**Annual General Meeting held at Holy Trinity Church on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

The Annual General meeting was held before the presentation made by the pharmacists about their work in the community.

Chairman Peter Blackman welcomed the attendees. There was an apology from Councillor Bob Massey who had chaired the first meeting of the Group in 2016.

Peter announced that the Group's website and Facebook and Twitter pages were all being launched on the day of this meeting and included among the material was the Annual Report.

A brief summary of activities was given. The Group was set up in June 2016 and was an amalgamation of the old Healthcare 2000 and the Town Council's Care Lunch Group. The Health and Social Care Group is totally independent of any other Group and represents people with all needs of medical and social care, whether it be ambulances, GP appointments, pharmacists or care homes etc.

During the year officers of the Group had met with the Chair of the Essex Success Regime. South Woodham Ferrers is now deemed a Lighthouse locality for Mid Essex along with Benfleet for South Essex, despite the recommended size of a locality being 40,000 -50,000 population.

A number of public meetings were held by the Group during the year. The topics were The Care Act, The Essex Success Regime, Children and Young Peoples Health. Additionally a workshop on the Essex Success Regime was hosted by the Group and a Task Force meeting was convened to hear about the Mid Essex Commissioning Group's (MECCG) plans and progress of the Lighthouse project.

Plans for the forthcoming year include Work of the Pharmacists after the AGM and in September a presentation by the Macmillan GP at MECCG on Cancer Prevention, Treatment and End of Life Care.

An expenditure/income report was presented showing how the Grant of £1,200 from the Town Council had been managed. The Town Council has awarded a similar Grant for 2017/2018.

The South Woodham Ferrers Patient Participation Groups are looking at ways of closer collaboration with HSCG in line with some of the recommendations from the Lighthouse Project.

Nominations had been requested for the executive posts. These had been received and seconded by independent residents of South Woodham Ferrers. However there had been only one nomination for each post. Chairman Peter Blackman; Task Force Chairman David Birch; Minute Secretary Jackie Birch. These were duly appointed for a further year and Donna Cooper will continue as Administrator.

Peter asked for suggestions for future topic presentations. Contributions included dementia (this has been done before but at a lunchtime meeting), diabetes and residential

placements. Additionally self help material can be put on the Group's website. This links in well with a Lighthouse project to promote increased options for patients to access material, to enable them to manage their own health better, which in turn frees up hard pressed medical resources.

There being no other business the AGM was closed. The next AGM will be in June/July 2018 – date to be announced