

Saxon Spires Patient Participation Group

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 20 November 2024 at
the Guilsborough Surgery**

17:30 hrs to 18:25 hrs

Present

Dr Julia Railson, Dr Julia Boon, Sarah Berry (Practice Manager), Sarah Payne (Assistant Practice Manager), Keith Dobell (Chair), Sue Brady (Vice-Chair), Barbara Hogg (Secretary), Michael Brady (Treasurer and Note-Taker), Marie Borrill, Sarah Farrell, Ann Gray, Maggie Goodwin, Sue Marshall, Rosemary Ward.

Apologies

Dorothy Hill, Louise Smart, Barrie Sollars, Mike Parsons.

Matters Arising

None.

Practice News

Sarah advised the Group that:

- From next week, there will be a small supply of hearing aid batteries available from the Brixworth Surgery dispensary. (Post Facebook item).
- There had been a very good response to the flu and Covid vaccination programme but she encouraged any eligible patients who had not been vaccinated to make an appointment.
- The RSV vaccine helps protect against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), a common virus that can make babies and older adults seriously ill. The Practice will invite eligible adults to the surgery to be vaccinated.
- Dr Megan Harper has taken early retirement due to health reasons.

- There had been a disappointing turnout at the latest Menopause presentation by Dr Boon and Dr Fletcher at the Guilsborough practice. There were only five attendees whereas the previous presentation attracted over 50 attendees. It is hoped that a further presentation will take place at the Brixworth surgery in 2025.
- A large number of patients order their prescriptions over the weekend and/or on a Monday, which is causing pressure on the Practice with regards to the processing of the prescriptions. Sarah requested that all non-electronic prescription requests be staggered throughout the week to avoid any possible delays in dispensing the prescriptions. Post Facebook item.
- There will be a Christmas Raffle this year although the decision as to which charity will be supported will be made in due course. Post Facebook item.

Technology Connection between Northampton and Kettering Hospitals

Dr Railson said that the IT issues surrounding medical staff being able to access test results at Kettering General Hospital had been resolved. She added that it is hoped that in the future Kettering and Northampton Hospitals would be able to access each other's test results.

Projects – Befriending Services for the Elderly

- Happy at Home, Daventry, is a locally based charity, funded by the National Lottery, which helps lonely people reconnect with their local community, which includes providing assistance to help people to become more digitally aware. Keith will make contact with the organisation.

Treasurer's Report

Michael advised the Group that there had been no financial activity passing through the account since the last meeting and that the balance remained at £338.92 credit.

Other Business

Dr Railson advised the Group that the role of Physician Associate, which had been highlighted in the press in the last few days, was not a role that would be incorporated into either Practice.

The last Primary Care Network meeting had to be cancelled, yet again, due to many people being unable to attend.

Sarah Drage will be taking over the role of the Carer's Group Coordinator. The Carer's Meetings are generally well attended.

Rosemary advised that the number of regular walkers had now risen to 54 and that the next walk would be on Monday, 16 December. She added that some walkers were also taking part in the weekly Saturday Park Run albeit the participants walked around the 5km course rather than running it.

Patients were still experiencing problems with prescription dispensations at the local Well Pharmacy in Brixworth. Once authorised by a medical practitioner, some of the prescriptions are directed electronically to Well Pharmacy's central hub for processing but those prescriptions that are required "on the day" are processed by the local pharmacy. It appears that there have also been delays in ordering medication supplies at the Brixworth pharmacy, as these can only be ordered by a Pharmacist, if there is one-site.

There was positive feedback regarding the informative content shown on the TV screens at both surgeries.

Practice management were unsure as to whether or not the recent Budget would have financial ramifications for the Practice; a new contract is due to start in April 2025. We can support the Practice's appeal and Dr Railson will provide a model text to Keith for adaptation by the SSPPG members.

Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the Brixworth Surgery on Wednesday, 5 February 2025 starting at 17:30 hrs.