

# **Saxon Spires Patient Participation Group**

## **Minutes of Annual General Meeting followed by the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 14 May 2025**

### **At the Guilsborough Surgery**

**18:00 hrs to 19:00 hrs**

#### **Attending**

Sarah Berry (Practice Manager), Dr Julia Boon (Senior Partner), Paul Bold, Marie Borrill, Michael Brady (Treasurer), Susan Brady (Vice Chair), Keith Dobell (Chair), Sarah Farrell, Ann Gray, Maggie Goodwin, Dorothy Hill, Barbara Hogg (Secretary), Sue Marshall, Mike Parsons (Minutes), Louise Smart, Rosemary Ward.

#### **Apologies**

Paul Jacobs, Dr Julia Railson, Georgia Sheldon, Angela Tilston.

#### **Annual Report of SSPG Activities to 31 December 2024**

Barbara said: Our first Meeting of 2024 was held in February at Brixworth Surgery. There was a discussion about the frequency of the SSPPG Meetings and it was decided that the Meetings would be held every 3 months instead of bi-monthly. During the winter months the meeting time would be brought forward to 5pm, then revert back to a later time during the summer.

SSPPG Members continued to support the monthly Carers Drop-In held at the Brixworth Community Centre on Spratton Road. A talk and activities proved popular and the numbers attending steadily increased during the year. In September carers and cared for enjoyed a meal at the Buddhist Centre at Thornby. A Carers Whats App Group helped to keep everyone informed of the meetings.

Our Chairman, Keith organised a Man-O-Pause Quiz Night which was held at the George in Brixworth in May. The focus of the quiz was on Men's Health and Dr Chris Lovatt proved to be an excellent quiz master. A raffle raised a welcome boost of £127 for the SSPPG funds.

The AGM was held at Guilsborough Surgery in May. The four Officers were duly re-elected. The meeting was attended by 15 members of the Group and 4 members of Saxon Spires Staff.

A Guilsborough Village Showcase event was held in Guilsborough Village Hall on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Myself and Maggie Goodwin attended to promote Saxon Spires Practice and the SSPPG. On display we had the new Practice Leaflet which outlines the additional Health Professionals available for patients. These include Physiotherapists, Podiatrists, Clinical Pharmacists, Paramedics and Social Prescribers.

In the Spring concerns were raised about the county wide funding for GP Practices offering blood tests. The funding offered covered less than half the cost of each test. The Saxon Spires Practice covers a large rural area and patients appreciate not having to travel to Northampton General Hospital for their tests. SSPPG members wrote letters to the Integrated Care Board (ICB) expressing their concerns about the service going forward. It is hoped that this matter will be addressed in the next round of funding next April.

Rosemary Ward took over the monthly Health Walks earlier this year after Mick Wright retired from the role. Sadly we were to hear that Mick passed away towards the end of 2024. The walks proved popular under Rosemary's leadership, with numbers exceeding thirty in some months. Many of the walkers enjoy a pub lunch together after each of the 60mins walk.

### **Annual Financial Report**

During the financial year, which ended on 31 December 2024, the Group did not fundraise due to the ongoing financial climate and, therefore, the activity passing through the Group's NatWest bank account was minimal.

Income totalled £127.00 and this related to the funds that were raised at the Man O-Pause quiz night that was held at the George Inn, in Brixworth, on 14 May. Expenditure totalled £20.78 and this related to the purchase of badges and lanyards for the PPG members.

The opening balance of the bank account on 1 January 2024 was £232.70 credit and the closing balance, on 31 December 2024, was £338.92 credit.

**B/F from 31 December 2023** **232.70**

**Receipts**

£

|         |  |         |               |
|---------|--|---------|---------------|
| 16 May: | Proceeds of Man O'Pause quiz held 14 May | 127.00. | <b>127.00</b> |
|---------|--|---------|---------------|

|       |                         |       |               |
|-------|-------------------------|-------|---------------|
| ----- |                         | ----- |               |
|       | <b><i>Sub Total</i></b> |       | <b>359.70</b> |

**Expenditure (all by BACS)**

£

|         |                              |       |  |
|---------|------------------------------|-------|--|
| 23 May: | Expenses badges and lanyards | 20.78 |  |
|---------|------------------------------|-------|--|

|       |                              |       |              |
|-------|------------------------------|-------|--------------|
| ----- |                              | ----- |              |
|       | <b><i>Less Sub Total</i></b> |       | <b>20.78</b> |

**FUNDS AS AT 31 December 2024** **232.70**

**Balances:**

**Patient Group**

**£338.92**

**Election of Officers**

All officers had agreed to remain in post if required and as no others were put forward they were duly elected:

Chair - Keith Dobell

Vice Chair - Sue Brady

Secretary - Barbara Hogg

Treasurer - Michael Brady

Mike Parsons also agreed to be the minutes/notes taker

**Change to the Constitution:**

One change in wording from *Primary Care Organisation* to *Primary Care Network (PCN)* was carried.

## **Ordinary Meeting**

### **Present**

As AGM

### **Apologies**

As AGM

### **Matters arising from the minutes**

None

### **Practice News**

Sarah Berry thanked all who had participated in the “Walk the Doc” event which had supported Dr Susan Northover aim to raise £1000 plus for cancer research. Including gift aid around £6,400 was raised including £490.32 on the cake stall.

The contract for blood tests being taken at the surgeries had been extended for another year, but with no uplift in payment to the Practice. The Practice will keep this under review but does believe that as a rural practice spreading over a wide area, it makes sense that the Practice should continue to offer this service.

The spring Covid immunising programme ended at the end of May and although some patients had been difficult to reach, so far over 1400 patients had been vaccinated.

Regarding staff changes, Sarah Payne is leaving at the end of May having been with the practice 13 years, good wishes were extended to her. Dr Julia Fletcher is retiring also at the end of May but will still help out in areas of women’s health. A new partner, Dr Rob White is about to join the Practice and because funding rules have changed slightly the Practice is able to offer a position to an additional recently qualified doctor.

Finally, building work is underway at the Guilsborough surgery to rearrange the dispensary. For some time dispensing has been carried out in two separate locations and this new enlarged space will assist staff movements.

Finally, the two surgeries were grateful for the additions of the clocks!

From the floor comments:

- Praise from Jade Warren (podiatrist in Brixworth) for the Practice podiatry service was mentioned.
- Further criticism was made of the Well pharmacy in Brixworth. Keith and Michael will write to Wells and consider complaint to Community Pharmacy England.

Dr Julia Boon described that she is holding a fund raising event in her paddock on July 13 with exhibitions of vintage cars and motor bikes. She is looking for ideas of additional stalls such as crafting, baking etc. There will be an entrance fee and stalls would be charged a modest fee of £10 to exhibit. Any money raised would go into the Practice funds. They have ambition to create a secure out of hours PIN driven medicine availability capability from the enlarged dispensary, current estimate is £50K.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Further to the AGM report, one change only as 2 clocks had been purchased so current balance is £284.17

### **Any Other Business**

- The story of the “Walk the Doc” event will be published in Brixworth Bulletin and the Spratton Newsletter and Guilsborough Village Link.
- The walks are still going well and Rosemary encouraged more to participate as it is exercise as well as a social occasion. Tributes were made to Mick Wright the previous walks organiser who had died recently.
- Comment, could the Practice encourage more careful driving in the car parks.
- The Tuesday weekly exercise “Get up and Go” programme currently held in Brixworth Cricket Club was going well with around 14 regular participants.

### **Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

Wednesday 13th August at 6.30 pm in Brixworth.