

# **Saxon Spires Patient Participation Group**

## **Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 13th August 2025**

### **At the Brixworth Surgery**

**18:30 hrs to 19:30 hrs**

**Attending** Dr Julia Railson, Paul Bold, Marie Borrill, Sue Brady (Vice Chair), Michael Brady (Treasurer), Caroline Church (Brixworth Administrator), Keith Dobell (Chair), Sarah Farrell, Dorothy Hill, Barbara Hogg (Secretary), Sue Marshall, Michael Parsons, Barrie Sollars, Angela Tilston.

**Apologies** Sarah Berry ( Practice Manager), Maggie Goodwin, Ann Gray, Louise Smart, Rosemary Ward.

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

None.

### **Practice News**

- Dr Julia Railson introduced Caroline Church who was appointed in May to assist with administration in Brixworth in a number of areas including care co-ordination .
- Dr Kotecha will be starting at Guilsborough shortly. She has recently completed her training as a GP.
- Dr Rob White is joining the Practice as a full time Partner and will operate on both sites. His background is as a doctor within the RAF.

### **Treasurers Report**

No activity in the recent past, the account stands at a balance of £284.17

### **Wells Brixworth Pharmacy**

The Chairman and Treasurer had composed an email to the Wells Regional Operations Manager highlighting that complaints still being made on the quality of

service with drugs shortages and even times when the pharmacy is closed due to non attendance of a pharmacist.

In a response, it was explained that they cannot open if there is not a pharmacist present and the usual reason was challenges finding a locum when the resident pharmacist was not on duty. It was admitted that they are continuing to have problems with deliveries of certain drugs.

The group agreed that actions by patients should therefore include:

- Consider using another pharmacy.
- Or use the Guilsbororough pharmacy and delivery service.
- Patients should ensure that repeat prescriptions are ordered in good time so that they don't run risk running out of key materials.

### **Fitness classes**

- The "Get up and Go" fitness class currently held at 1pm to 2pm on Tuesday at the cricket club continues to be well supported. Recent discussions between the cricket club, the Practice and Raphael Davighi (who runs the current class) have led to allocation of 2 more slots to the programme. These are a second Get up and Go scheduled to start on Thursday mornings at 10.30 and on Monday mornings an "armchair yoga" class also at 10.30, both classes to start in September.
- It was revealed that the landowner of the cricket pitch has given notice to the cricket club. The club has decided to raise the funds to buy the site so that all current activities can continue. It is seeking support from all interested parties.

### **New Projects**

- The Practice is reluctant to formalise a request to SSPPG for actions to raise equipment funds on the Practice's behalf at present.
- The recent "open day" at Dr Julia Boon's premises produced just around £1000 which will go towards a project where dispensing/making available of drugs/medicines could be collected out of hours. (Ie similar to a cash machine)
- Some improvements are being carried out at Guilsborough - such as alterations to the minor ops room - but will be funded by the Practice.

- **Health walks**

Support remains good, 28 attendees in July. Reminder that at the Saturday Park Run participants can always use it as a Park Walk!

**Any Other Business**

- A comment was made concerning the NHS App on the ease of making an appointment. It is very straightforward and a recommendation made that patients be encouraged to use it. The App can be used for other reasons including reordering of repeat prescription medicines and the scrutiny of medical history.
- A letter from a patient commenting about the hearing aid batteries and confusion over how to get them.
- As shown in the February minutes, NGH Audiology have informed the Practice that due to funding issues they are no longer supporting all surgeries and pharmacies with supplies of hearing aid batteries. However, if patients would send a stamped self addressed envelope (correct postage!) to the department then they could receive batteries via post.
- The Practice has attempted to offer batteries, but has experienced considerable difficulties with the varieties and numbers that have been supplied. Some patients have been difficult with taking or asking for too many, which has led to subsequent patients been unable to get theirs, with consequent unfair pressure on Practice staff.
- The Practice has reluctantly taken the view that as they are NOT obliged to offer the free dispensing of batteries and that patients now either buy what they need, or, as NGH Audiology recommend by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Audiology and they will receive their batteries by post.

**Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

NOTE the time:

Wednesday 19th November – Guilsborough Surgery at 5.30 pm.