

MRS PPG MINUTES

Thursday 26th February 2026 @ 19.15

Mill Road Surgery

Present:

Peter Barfield Marilyn Hurst
Amy Bridgland Vivienne Klimowicz
Matt Carter (MRS) Lara Rogers (MRS)
Steve Essam Carolyne Taylor

Apologies:

Dr de Silva Liz Taverner
Karen Pimlott Anne Turrell
Ellora Roy

1. **(CT)** welcomed members to the meeting. Henry Fried and Rumaan Malik have resigned from the PPG.
2. Action points from last meeting
 - All completed
3. Matters arising from Action Points
 - **(CT)** received replies in answer to the letters sent to James Cartlidge and Pam Cox. Both replies were from Stephen Kinnock (Minister of State for Care) and it was felt that they didn't address our concerns.
 - The Partners agreed to a Surgery FB page. **(CT)** to set up
 - Ash agreed to write articles for local newsletters. The LSPN is currently not being printed.
4. Update from Surgery
 - Staffing
 - 2 new Receptionists have been appointed.
 - There are discussions regarding an increase in Reception staff to support with Triage
 - An advert has been placed for a GP to replace Dr Stubbings
 - A GP has been appointed to replace Dr Carpenter. The Doctor will start in March
 - Future Plans
 - A bid submitted for the Bluebell Practice at Highwoods has been successful. This will mean a lot of extra work as well as benefits for the Mill Road Practice. The PPG will be asked to support this transition and a meeting in April is to be arranged to receive updates as to how members' input can be beneficial for all concerned.
 - The PCN are purchasing a storage shed for the community garden. This will be sited at Mill Road surgery, and it has been agreed that our garden tools can be stored inside.
 - There are plans to organise a farewell occasion for Dr Carpenter.
 - **(VK)** raised the issue regarding a patient alert message for prescriptions that are ready for collection. This would be for the two and a half thousand patients that Mill Road dispense for. **(MC)** has already investigated this and has been unsuccessful so far. He agreed to raise this with the Commissioners.

5. Newsletter

- **(PB)** has produced the latest draft edition. There is an updated photo of the surgery. Further suggestions/additions were made. Including an article re measles vaccine and Perimenopause **(AB)**
- Article re inoculations when travelling abroad – next edition?

6. Ideas for future projects

- **(KP)** suggested that the newsletter is available on table in foyer. Organise posters in waiting area into age group related information.

7. A.O.B.

- Re screen in waiting area – a space is needed after the information on **PPG**
- NAPP charity is to be dissolved.
- **(VK)** stated that the Integrated Care Board is withdrawing funding for the overnight Marie Curie support in Ipswich and Suffolk. A more neighbourhood-based approach is to be implemented.
- **(SE)** asked about DNAs. The numbers continue to remain high and are being looked at in more detail. **(CT)** to post the figures on social media.
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The next PPG meetings are to be held on **Tuesday 21st April 2026 @19.15 at the surgery.**
Thursday 18th June 2026 @19.15

8. Action Points

- **(CT)** to set up Facebook page
- **(MC)** to organise a date for a farewell celebration for Dr Carpenter
- **(MC)** to speak to Commissioners re prescription alert system
- **(AB)** to write article re Measles vaccine and send to **(PB)**
- **(AB)** to ask Social Prescriber for any more information regarding the closure of Marie Curie overnight support.
- **(CT)** to post DNA figures