



Patient Participation Group (PPG) Agenda
Tuesday 13th May 2025, 12.30pm
St Melor House Surgery

Attendees: Dr Alison Brown, GP Partner St Melor House Surgery
Jenny Holmes, Practice Manager, St Melor House Surgery
Katheryn Pinner
Caroline Pollard
Gill McAllister
Nikki Bayly-Pike

Apologies: Janine Neate
Dr Monica Devendran, Mayor and Wiltshire Councillor

Previous minutes

Nothing to follow up on.

Staffing and update on surgery services

Dr Lucy Aquilina will be going on maternity leave mid July. Dr Tom Marshall will be covering her sessions in the meantime.

We are currently recruiting for a new Practice Nurse as Jemma Wright is leaving to go back to her previous role. A Practice Nurse with an interest and knowledge in respiratory would be advantageous.

Cathy Richards, Advanced Nurse Practitioner is our diabetic specialist nurse and is managing our Long Term Condition register.

Building and Capacity

As previously discussed, we are now at capacity with limited number of clinical rooms and need to expand to accommodate our increasing patient numbers.

Discussions around the options for St Melor to expand:

1. Unable to extend to the side or at the back of the surgery due to shared access and car park
2. Possibility of buying the bungalow but this would take renovation and a change of use – not a financial viable option
3. A new build in Archers Gate or Kings Gate not possible as funding has already been allocated by the builders
4. Extending into the roof for admin/office space which will free up rooms on first floor to become clinical rooms. Builder to initially provide some guidance as to whether it is possible due to the structure. Nikki B-P kindly offered for her husband to take a look – thank you. Offer taken up. Will update at the next meeting.
5. Suggestion of taking on the lease of the bike shop for administration when they close in August. Jenny to contact the agent.

Locally Commissioned Services (LCS)

As discussed at our previous meeting, LCS are additional services provided by a GP practice that are not part of the General Medical Services contract (GMS). LCS vary by location and are based on local needs.

We now have a process for signing up to services and claiming payments.

Any other business

- Nikky Bayly-Pike raised that unfortunately the GoodSAM App is due to close in the near future. Hopefully there will be an alternative app in the future to provide support to the local community.
- There has been no progress with getting another pharmacy in Amesbury, however Dr Monica Devendran will continue to follow this up with the ICB.
- Discussion around ongoing issues where patients are queuing at local pharmacies only to be told item not ready or out of stock and to go back. Suggestion of housebound/vulnerable patients signing up to online pharmacies who then deliver direct to your door or sign up to Boots/Allied Pharmacy free prescription delivery service. LINK may be able to help if they have capacity.
- Gill McAlister mentioned the Get Wiltshire Walking Walking for Health group: We meet every Tuesday at 10 outside Amesbury library where we have 3 different walks to choose from; the starter which is a half an hour slow stroll, the stroller which is an hour or so and about 2.5 to 3 miles and a strider which is 90 minutes and about 4 miles. Everyone gets a bit of exercise and a lot of chat and most of us go for a social coffee afterwards. We do have people referred to us either for the exercise or for their mental health and people find it beneficial. No one has to commit to it, people can come along if they feel like it or not if they don't. It really is a good scheme and it's free!
Leaflets available in the waiting room.
- **PPG members**
Would benefit from some more members to get a more representation across the community – Caroline will ask at next council meeting for any St Melor patients to join the PPG.

Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 9th September 2025