

Abbey Field Medical Centre

Patient Group Minutes – Tuesday 20 January 2026 @ 12.00

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Attendees : Nicky Young, Dave Harris, Elizebth Bezzant, Vi Haddow, Steven McDonough, Richard Iddon, Hazel Law, Mary Mills, Pamela Clayton

Apologies :

Minutes : The minutes from last meeting were agreed

We started the meeting with Any Other Business

1. Hazel flagged that the only way you can cancel a dermatology appointment at the hospital is online. Hazel, and the group felt, this excluded people who did not have access to phones etc. and may prevent them from cancelling appointments and thus being penalised for this. Hazel is following up with PALS
2. Dave wanted to pass on his thanks to everyone on Reception. Dave also commented on the state of the carpark and people parking on the “grass areas”. Dave is going to see if there is any funding for the car park.
3. Vi raised concerns about medications being issued at different times and not altogether – resulting in multiple trips to collect medication – Nicky is following this up. Vi also asked if people were informed why they could not have their medications issued as a batch – Nicky is following this up
4. Vi is following up on the SNEE Participation Group – however all meetings are in Suffolk at present.

Abbey Field : There have not been any changes at Abbey Field.

Elmstead : This week we will be having new flooring fitted in the waiting room and upstairs in the dispensary. The next step will be to paint the waiting room and freshen it up.

Greenstead : There have not been any changes at Greenstead.

Tollgate : We started the care taking of Tollgate on the 12 March 2025. In January 2026 the ICB undertook a formal review of the progress which had been made – we will receive the report in 2 weeks.

Abbey Field Garden Update : We now have two garden groups

1. Abberton Rural Training (ART) meet on a Monday. They focus on training and gardening- if people are interested in joining this group they can contact ART. It is fantastic that they have secured funding to continue this group at Abbey Field.
2. Friends of Abbey Field Medical Centre Garden. This group meet on a Wednesday and is led by Richard Iddon and run in conjunction with the Hamelin Trust. The focus is on building friends and gardening.

Dave stated that he had some daffodils to donate to the garden project

Both groups are looking for volunteers.

Doctors Team : No changes.

Nursing Team : Tash has joined as a new to practice nurse. Over the next few months Tash will be trained up on all the areas specific to practice nursing e.g. immunisations, cytology etc.

HCA : Sage is going to undertake her HCA course in April 2026.

Primary Care Network (PCN)/Neighbourhoods : Currently there is not much news on this but you will hear that the NHS is encouraging Practices to form groups, Neighbourhoods, of 50,000 patients. We are already in a PCN with Ambrose Avenue and East Hill – we are reviewing what we need to do to form a Neighbourhood.

There are no further updates on this at present

Flu/COVID : The team managed a really good flu/COVID vaccination programme. We used all of the vaccine and completed the programme ahead of schedule.

Social Prescribing : We have a team of 3 Social Prescribers; Tara, Ruth and Maddy. They work across all 4 sites. Recently they have started Chatty Crew which meets once a month at Greenstead – if you are interested please call and we can let you have details

-----Meeting ended 1315-----