



# Newbold Surgery Patient Participation Group



**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**In Attendance:**

Steve Willetts (Practice Manager), Dr Steph Barron & Dr Robert Barron – 2 of our Partner GPs  
Martin Cooper, Sue Deakin, Marilyn Hay & Rob Hay, Annie Wilkinson, Trudy Allen, and Carrie Poole.

**Apologies received:**

Ken Lawrie

**Members Update**

To join is as easy just asking one of us – no fancy forms to fill out

**Dr Robert & Steph Barron – two of Partner GPs**

The 2 Doctor Barrons are husband and wife who job-share here at Newbold as GP Partners. Robert qualified in 1999 and Steph in 2000. They told about their doctor training in Sheffield, and then about their GP training in Chesterfield. They worked at a couple of other Practices before joining Newbold Surgery in May 2003. The job share works well for all- our patients and Practice Team get 2 doctors for the price of 1, while it worked well for them allowing them to balance career and homelife. They have three daughters and have also fostered a number of children too.

Steph then told us about her outside interests, where she helps provide care to substance misuse patients including pregnant ladies with substance abuse histories. She explained how this care goes beyond clinical care and also involves parenting advice too, as many of these patients may lack that family support network, that many other mothers may benefit from. She then went on to explain how drug abuse has evolved in the time she has been involved. She also helps provide specialist clinics her at the Surgery, working with dedicated drug and alcohol workers. Our members then asked if these patients created any additional risks or challenges for the staff here, Steph explained that the patients were so grateful of the care that they received that they generally presented less challenges that the broader patient population.

Robert then told us about the additional work he does providing end of life care to our patients. He also explained how this care had evolved over the years, with now lots of agencies now involved in this care. He spoke with some nostalgia for when Doctors would have provided much more of this care, before these other agencies became involved. He still leads regular MDT meetings on end-of-life care, helping ensure that all these different elements of care are provided at this most difficult time in a patient and their families life. Both Doctors then went on to praise how well run the Practice was, how stable and happy our Practice Team is, with some amazing long serving colleagues. Steve credited this to that same nurturing and caring approach that the Dr Barrons provide, to their children and foster children, applies to their dealings with the Practice staff. This helps make Newbold Surgery a great place to work and hopefully a great place to be a patient too.



## **Practice Update**

- Online Access – October 1<sup>st</sup> Contract Changes. The Practice continues to offer patients equity of access to appointments and service. As a patient you can contact us in person, by phone, using your online SystemOne account, the NHS App and our website. We particularly encourage patients who are able to sign up to the NHS app or SystemOne access, to make ordering prescriptions, booking appointments even easier. This then frees up our phones for those patients unable to use online services.
- Team Changes. – We had one new Reception colleague join us – Claire who joins us from another Chesterfield Surgery, so a warm welcome to Claire. We are currently advertising for a new Practice Nurse to join our team.
- Patient numbers continue to grow, with our list now reaching 12393, which has grown by 302 patients this year. Questions asked around what was driving growth, which were answered by Dr Robert Barron. He felt that much of the growth was driven by patients being unhappy elsewhere.

## **Matters brought forward by the PPG**

Request to review role of PPG and to circulate PCN articles of association in advance of next meeting. Members invited to submit items for discussion in advance of next meeting.

## **Dunston Housing Development**

As new housing development continues in Dunston, one of the members raised the prospect of a new GP Practice potentially in planning. Planning Reference CHE/25/00247/DOC was submitted 31/03/2025 and is still awaiting decision. {Update received after meeting that the developers have committed funding for healthcare provision to the local ICB but that there are no specific plans for a new GP Practice as part of the planning application}. We encourage our patients and local residents to look at the plans submitted, and where appropriate express your views to ensure that essential services such as Doctor's Surgeries form part of this consideration.

## **Planning Permission appears to have refused 05/11/2025**

## **PPG**

Brief update on book sales and again call to continue to grow our membership. Since setting our book sales back up we have raised an incredible £176 – that's more than 352 books donated and sold. This money can be used, by our PPG to benefit all our patients by purchasing medical equipment enabling us to provide more services locally or things to make the waiting room more inviting. You tell us. We really appreciate our current members giving their time, ideas and support to the Practice. Any patients wishing to join, can give us a call or use the "CONTACT US" button on the website. We are seeking a Chair and Secretary for our PPG. We agreed to review our PPG aims and structure at our meeting in March.

## **AOB**

## **Date and Time of Next Meetings:**

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026 18:30. During this meeting will review our articles of service for our PPG

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026 18:30. Guest Speaker - TBC