

**Summary of Minutes of Meeting**  
**UPPINGHAM PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP**  
**held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 5.30 pm**

**The main topic of the meeting was the proposed closure of Ketton Branch Surgery** which is now under public consultation. Though respect and support for the Practice was expressed, some members raised **concern and disappointment at the lack of invited participation** by the PPG. The PPG had had **no input into the survey** which will not identify Ketton patients or focus on the difficulties, such as transport, that patients will face. Nor had use been made of the **PPG representatives from Ketton** although the RCC Ward Councillors are raising the matter with the RCC and CCG. The problem for Uppingham Practice continuing to offer services at Ketton is one of **staffing and recruiting GPs** rather than costs. The process for the public consultation was out of Uppingham Practice's hands but the content of the survey could have been improved with the involvement of Healthwatch and possibly the PPG, thereby avoiding the gap between what the PPG expected of the survey and the Practice's own expectations.

**Public consultation ends on 1<sup>st</sup> May.** Information is being gathered from the public and not just patients, at drop-in sessions, by letter and through social media and will all go for independent analysis before the Primary Care Commissioning Group and the CCG make a final decision.

**Other matters were then raised.** Regarding **staffing**, dispenser Shirley Hart is leaving in March and Janet Thompson retires from the Patient Services Team in April. Recruiting is underway to replace them. The **Dispensary** Manager is always happy to speak to patients promptly should there be any complaints, and feedback is still awaited on how to improve information on the Telephone Prescription Ordering Service. The **managers and staff were thanked** on behalf of patients for the service provided during the difficulties of the recent snowy weather.

Dr Wass explained that there is a drive to **stop issuing sleeping pills**, due to the risk of addiction, and advice on aiding sleep may be offered instead.

Geoff Thompson agreed to take on **the role of Vice Chair** of the PPG. It was clarified that **the PPG represents patients' interests** at the Surgery only and, as not elected, members attend other meetings in a personal capacity and cannot speak on behalf of the PPG. There were no Reports or Communications and nothing received in the Suggestion Box.

**The date of the next meeting** is Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 5.15 pm at the Surgery.