

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
BELFORD MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENTS' PARTICIPATION GROUP
HELD ON 16th October 2025 AT Seahouses surgery

Present:

- C Longster, S Findlay, R Hutchinson, B Stanton, R Wells, J Mason, M Lester, T Binder.

Apologies:

- S Biglands, J Ward.

2. Previous Minutes.

- These were agreed and signed by C Longster.

3. Matters Arising.

- Chair: Joan Ward has had to step down as she is moving and will no longer be a patient in the practice. Following discussion Margaret Lester kindly offered to take over the role. CL will continue to support with minutes and meetings/dissemination of information as there is currently no secretary in place.
- Flu communication confusing-
 - o message stating patients would be contacted by the practice and some asking patients to ring to book in. Unclear.
 - o Slight challenge that NHS England also send messages out which we are not involved in/have no control over content. - CL will liaise with flu team to review for next year and ensure messages are clearer.
- Accessible parking area at the Belford Surgery. Discussion about where this could be/most appropriate for access. On the

road in front of the surgery would be closest to the front ramp. This will require discussion with parish council/highways. BS has contact on parish council to start this discussion.

- Patient contact details discussed and request for different mobile numbers for NHS ap for partners. Likely this is related to confidentiality and only being able to register a mobile number to one ap/an individual ap rather than two.
- Evolution of the PPG and moving forward and how to make a difference. Discussion about previous work by PPG, liaison with other PPGs and the history of the PPG. To look at arranging a time for PPG to meet the whole team in practice in the new year. Potential to pop in at the beginning of closed shop in the new year. CL will liaise with team to look at when this would be possible.

Any Other Business (AOB)

An update was given on the recent meeting of the trustees of the BMBF (Equipment fund). This is a fund used for the benefit of the patients. The fund has a healthy balance and is managed well by the trustees. Monies is used to promote good health and benefit for patients. Any gifts or legacies given to the practice are invested into charitable funds.

Update on changes to the Practice

Dr Emma Miller is retiring at the end of November. Dr E Phillips is to replace Dr Miller. Dr Murray started in the summer and works Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Date of Next Meeting.

This will be held on Wednesday 28th January 2026 at 1.30 at Bellview.

CL 08/12/2025

