

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF KNUTSFORD MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP HELD ON 24TH JUNE 2025 AT KNUTSFORD TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES ON TOFT ROAD 1 – 2PM

Present: April Johnson- Chair, Helen Smith – Toft Road, Anna Sanders - Manchester Road, Sam Pownall (SP) KMP, Dr Hans Toft Road Surgery. Jacqui Grinham- Annandale, Ela Clare – Medical Student, George Syms – Toft Road,

1. Apologies:

Neil Forbes, Keith Thompson, Jan Codling, Sue Richie

2. Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 24th June 2024 and Matters Arising:

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record with no amendment.

A matter arising from several previous minutes regarding an article in the Knutsford Guardian about protected learning days had not yet been done. AJ has passed contact details for the Knutsford Guardian to the KMP who have passed them onto the Cheshire and Merseyside ICB (Integrated Care Board) requesting that they do a central communication on Staff Training Days. These are now routinely held on Wednesdays or Thursdays.

AP1 SP Lifestyle on Prescription Posters in GP surgeries and link to screens in waiting room had not been done. SP will look into this. No information on vaping had been received from Manchester City Council via Cheshire East. AJ will chase up at Cheshire Partnership meetings.

AJ mentioned that she had contacted a Knutsford Pharmacy regarding Pharmacy First Prescription service and they said they needed more referrals from GPs. DH said that the GPs will not formally refer patients because the purpose of the service is that Patients use the service instead of using GPs. The receptionist may informally signpost a patient to the Pharmacy First Service.

AP 2 SP mentioned that in future there will be a be a lead pharmacy representative for Knutsford

AP 3 Regarding patient transport to a pharmacist on a Sunday AJ reported that the Good Neighbours are short of drivers.

AJ asked about chronic illness reviews which the KMP said were being done in the Summer when there was not as much pressure on services but SP reported that it was being done on the patient's birth month. There was currently a project for hypertension.

AJ asked what percentage of patients have a chronic illness and SP will provide this information.

SP mentioned that under One You, patients can self-refer if they have a high BMI.

SP mentioned that the Care Community will be doing a Healthy Living event in September 2025.

JG reported that the PPG needs a representative on the Knutsford Care Community which holds meetings on line or in person once a month. Anyone interested should contact SP for more information.

3. KMP Update on premises:

DH reported that although the notional rent had been agreed and the procurement process was completed there were delays in the accounting process for releasing the funds on the land. In effect, the decision-making process has not yet been completed although the general vibe is positive.

NB Since the meeting, the Policy paper Fit for the future: 10 Year Health Plan for England – has been published and we don't know the impact of this on the decision-making process.

4. Update on GP Work to Rule

Collective action by GPs has paused nationally whilst the new contract is being negotiated GPs are continuing "safe working".

From Monday 1st July a new Acute Hub will be launched and KMP will adopt a new clinical model. Urgent appointments will be shared across the hub and routine appointments will be actioned within 5 days.

5. New Blinx system

SP confirmed that the text message patients received from Blinx was not a scam. Blinx is a digital front door where patients can access GP services. One advantage of Blinx is that it has a facility for Text Relay during video consultations. The KMP is now using Patient Access and Blinx which can both be accessed via the NHS App.

HS mentioned reasonable adjustments for people with a hearing disability and the issues around telephone appointments where people lipread. SP confirmed the KMP policy that where people have hearing disabilities this should be flagged up on their patient records and they should be offered face to face appointments.

6. Database Access

KT had asked about database access. Who has what and can information be expressed? SP confirmed that information can be accessed from KMP databases.

As KT was not present at the meeting there was no further discussion on this.

7. AOB

A question was asked about promotion of PPG on the screens in the waiting room. SP said that the PPG was not on the rolling screens.

AJ reported that she had been asked by Knutsford Academy to talk to one of the teachers about the Care Communities in Knutsford.

8. Date of next meeting

16 September 2025 at 1pm in the Town Council Offices.