



**Minutes of Church Street and Newbury Street
Patient Participation Groups Joint Committee Meeting
Tuesday, 9th September 2025**

(draft for approval at Joint PPG meeting on 9th December 2025)

Attendance and apologies:

Church Street Practice (CSP)

Greta Thornbory (GT) - *Chair*
Liz Buckle (LB)
Annie Dee (AD)
Gail Crowther (GC)
John Caldicott (JC)
Mehdi Askarieh (MA)
Pauline Gardner PG)
Janice Miller (JM)
Sue Thwaite (ST)

Newbury Street Practice (NSP)

Helen Carter (HC)
Andrew Lewcock (AL)
Becky Collins (BC)
Bernard Connolly (BCo)
Lyn Davis (LD)
Janet Parker (JP)
Sandie Helm (SH)
Judy Gibbons (JG)
Rosemary Strickland (RS)
Tom Thacker (TT)

Practices: *Church Street:* Julie Bridle (JB), Paula Wright (PW)
 Newbury Street: Robin Somers (RSo), Sandra O'Donnell
 PCN: Diana Donald (DD)

Apologies: Dr Carrie Ladd

1. Welcome:

GT welcomed everyone to the meeting, commenting on the excellent attendance. Also SH noted that Judy Gibbons is a new member on NS PPG, similarly this was also the first meeting attended by Janice Miller, a new CS PPG member.

2. Minutes of the last meeting (10 June 2025): - no amendments were requested. GT mentioned that she had amended them to include her apologies. The Minutes were therefore approved.

3. Practice Updates:

Newbury St: Only one update from RS to inform that the Covid & flu vaccination clinic is booked for Saturday 4th October. More details to follow.

Church St: JB shared that the vaccination clinic on 4th October will be a joint clinic across both practices. GP posts are now filled - with some new GPs started and some to come. This brings the use of Locums to an end currently.

Electricity provider has asked for an electrical shutdown on Friday 3rd October for 'essential work'. JB is challenging this and will keep the PPG up to date.

AD asked about the recent fatal RTA on Mably Way in terms of staff being supported - both RS & JB flagged that staff were being supported as needed and thanked AD for asking about this.

GT asked about the problems with the CS website. JB confirmed that this is linked to an issue with the site security certificate. Resolution is in hand and we may change web site provider with the TeamNet service. The problem is resulting in an increased number of telephone calls to the practice.

4. PCN update:

DD shared information about the 'peace' garden that has been designed with Assura who are sponsoring it. It will be behind the surgery and will provide quiet contemplative space for patients and staff. The Care Co-ordinators team are looking at how this can become part of the social prescribing offer. JG suggested the inclusion of fragrant plants based on her knowledge of the Parkinsons Garden in Ardington. The plan is attached – page 3.

The PCN with both practices is setting up a sensory room on the ground floor for patients with learning difficulties.

DD confirmed her plans for retiring at the end of October and that the recruitment process is underway. We gave our thanks to DD as this is her last meeting.

5. Joint newsletter:

AD shared that we have had some good feedback on the most recent newsletter.

JC shared that he has a few spare copies if anyone needs these. We are still awaiting the QR code and given the issues with CS website this will be produced by NS. The next newsletter is due in January - AD & AL asked that we see some formal guidance on content in advance of starting to work on this and also that the review process needs run to time. **Action : JB & RS**

HC added that print costs are more expensive if we request short notice printing.

6. Outreach:

HC updated that she & ST had been able to visit Maude House & Grovelands thanks to LD's input. Residents in both of these struggles with digital access.

This completes the Outreach programme for the time being. As ST will step away from CS PPG, we will need a replacement lead to work with HC if we decide to start a new programme in the future.

7. AGMs:

CS PPG AGM is on 2 October @19.30. It's been advertised in the newsletter. GT has some flyers that members could help distribute. Details were discussed, individual arrangements made.

NS PPG AGM is on 20 November.

NS also has a 'Vaccine' talk event scheduled for 16th September 7.30pm. SH will send the electronic flyers to GT for distribution to the mailing list.

8. AOB:

- GT thanked LB for all her input into the CS PPG as Deputy Chair ahead of her moving house in early October. AD & SH re-iterated this especially linked to the help with the Health & Wellbeing Day. GT also thanked ST for her hard work in the Outreach programme.
- AL flagged that he now has a contact with the Wantage Electronic newsletter which is likely to be a good channel for sharing information about events etc. It is published monthly by the Council.
- AL also flagged that he had seen a press release about the funding for the re-furbishment of the Wantage Community Hospital - using Community Infrastructure Level (CIL) funding from VOWH.

9. Date and time of next meeting:

This was agreed as Tuesday 9th December at 2pm (zoom) with NS (SH) to chair.

