

St Vincent Practice
Patient Participation Group Minutes

Wednesday 23rd October 2013 held at St Vincent Practice

Present:	Dr P Donk	GP
	Mrs Lynne Neal	Practice Manager
	Mrs Ruth Parker	Assistant Practice Manager
	Lesley Gelsthorpe	Practice Nurse
	Beverly Latti	Senior Receptionist
	Jackie Embley	Senior Receptionist
	JB	Patient
	PG	Patient
	JS	Patient
	JS	Patient
	IR	Patient
	JT	Patient
	CB	Patient
	SR	Patient
	DB	Patient
	SE	Patient
	AE	Patient

Note Taker: Mrs Ruth Parker

Lynne welcomed all the patients to the meeting & thanked them for taking the time to attend. Lynne explained that the purpose of this meeting was to inform and discuss the decision to close Hollybush Health Centre.

Dr Donk explained that the reason for the proposed closure of Hollybush Health Centre was because over the last year the practice had lost three GPs who had left & that one had passed away & that we had found it very difficult during this time to cope to meet the needs of our patients. He explained that we have now recruited three new GP partners which has helped but as they are new partners and new to General Practice they will require much support and guidance over the next couple of years. He also explained that although we now have nine GPs at the practice they do not all work full time.

Dr Donk also explained that due to the population of the Edenthorpe/Kirk Sandall area expanding since we took over the premises in 2000, with new housing developments a branch surgery is not adequate for the patient needs and that we feel it needs a full GP surgery.

We explained that patients who wish to stay registered and use 77 Thorne Road will continue to receive high quality care and continued care in an environment which is continually being improved where there is wide range of services available.

The impact of the closure on staff and doctors will be beneficial and will result in a more efficient working practice.

We explained that alternative healthcare provision is available at nearby practices should patients decide they do not want to move to Thorne Road and it is with this in mind that the practice do not feel that patients are being disadvantaged in any way. Many patients already attend Thorne Road and we anticipate that the transition will be a smooth one for most patients.

We informed patients that the decision was to be made by the Board Directors of NHS England and informed them that the meeting was to take place at the end of November 2013.

The patients thanked Dr Donk for the explanation and felt that it was beneficial to hear the real reasons for the proposed closure and that they would relay this message to their friends/family.

Patients were concerned that they would be left without GP medical care. It was explained that they will continue to be registered with St Vincent Practice unless they register at another GP surgery. It was also explained that they wouldn't be left without any GP medical care in the Edenthorpe/Kirk Sandall area as we envisage that Hollybush Health Centre premises will be taken over by another GP provider should they wish to register with them.

The patients also thanked the practice for the services that are available to them and that they appreciate the quality service they receive.

Lynne informed the group that as soon as any decisions had been made all patients would be informed.

Next Meeting to be arranged.