

PRESCOTT SURGERY PATIENT NEWSLETTER

With Premises Update

May/June 2026

Latest News from The Surgery – From Nick Storey, Business Manager, The GP Partners of the Surgery & Jackie Jones, Chair, The Patient Participation Group.

The Patient Group would like to thank all patients who have supported the surgery with their involvement and made their comments on the Shropshire Planning Portal regarding the need for infrastructure investment when planning applications are submitted and subsequently approved.

Everyone has a right to their opinion and those who are supporting the need to develop the surgery in line with the building of new houses in Baschurch and surrounding villages are helping to champion this matter. The Patient Group will continue to support the practice with whatever action is required and in order to ensure services to patients are protected. However without investment for the surgery it is inevitable that there will be a detrimental impact on patient services and an impact on the wellbeing of all staff at the practice.

Thank you to everyone who has recently provided support and those who continue to support the need for investment in Prescott Surgery.

Carers Project

The Patient Group together with the support of the practice will be launching an initiative to review, develop and implement new processes to support the carers of others. A carer is defined by NHS England as - ***A carer is anyone, including children and adults who looks after a family member, partner or friend who needs help because of their illness, frailty, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction and cannot cope without their support. The care they give is unpaid. When we refer to carers, this is inclusive of both adult and young carers.***

The Patient Group are currently working on an implementation plan, and we will update you further in the next newsletter.

Staff Changes

It is with sadness that we have to announce that Dr Zoe Hook will be leaving the practice at the end of June. The Patient Group would like to thank Dr Hook for her services to patients. Dr Hook will be greatly missed, and we all wish her well with the forthcoming birth of her baby. We would also like to welcome Lead Nurse Darcy Rogers.

Jackie Jones, Chair - Prescott Surgery Patient Group

Prescott Surgery premises statement- an update for patients May 2026

Many patients have asked about our plans for new or improved practice premises. We would like to explain the current situation clearly and openly.

The GP partners, Dr Guildford, Dr Stone and Dr Booth own our existing building which was designed and built many years ago. The cost of mortgage repayments is covered by the NHS who pay the owners of GP premises a notional rent based on a valuation of the premises by a District Valuer. Whilst we ensure our surgery is well maintained to keep it clinically safe and functional; the premises no longer meet modern standards for primary care and cannot easily be adapted to do so.

Over many years we have actively explored all potential options in conjunction with our local Parish Council, NHS Shropshire Telford & Wrekin Integrated Care Board (ICB), Shropshire Council and a consultancy firm that specialises in new GP premises. We have considered in detail the main options of extending our current premises and new built premises with more car parking on a different site. Our current site is restricted, so an extension of the premises would not meet future demand as the local population increases and this would also impact negatively on our limited parking facilities. Therefore, new premises on a different site is the preferred option.

Unfortunately, the build costs for new premises that need to meet rigorous NHS standards is significantly more than the value of our current premises (we were quoted approximately £5-6 million when we explored this in detail in 2022-23). Whilst we do not have an accurate figure for what notional rent would be available, we do know that this would be significantly less than the mortgage costs for new premises, so there is a significant funding gap that needs to be filled.

In January 2023 we submitted a Project Initiation Document (PID) to Shropshire Telford & Wrekin ICB as the first major step to progressing to a new surgery on land that had been earmarked for new GP premises within the village. Following this, the ICB agreed that our current premises were not sufficient to provide primary care facilities to our registered list. Unfortunately, whilst the ICB recognised the need for new premises in Baschurch, there was very little funding available within the NHS both locally and nationally to fund new GP premises. The funding within the NHS for primary care premises development remains very constrained currently.

We have discussed with Shropshire Council about potentially releasing CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funds that are generated by new housing developments to part fund new premises but the figures that potentially could be released would be insufficient for us to proceed.

As many of you will be aware, a recent planning application has been submitted for another housing development within the village, and part of the application proposes reserving land for new GP premises. The developers have engaged with us on this but unfortunately, without significant funding from the ICB or from a combination of the ICB and other stakeholders, no progress can be made.

We fully understand the frustration and disappointment this causes and we share that frustration. We want modern, accessible premises that support safe care for our growing population — but GP practices cannot self-fund large builds, and proceeding without secured NHS backing is not possible.

We continue to:

- actively engage with the ICB, developers, and planners
- press for appropriate NHS investment
- maintain and improve our existing building where possible

As soon as there is confirmed progress that we are allowed to share, patients will be updated immediately.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Dr Guildford, Dr Stone & Dr Booth

Please do contact the surgery if you have a medical need during our opening hours, Monday to Friday 08.00am-6.30pm. If you have a non-urgent medical query during the evening and weekends that cannot wait until the surgery re-opens, please call 111, this service is available 24 hours.

If you have a medical emergency, please dial 999

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