

## Minutes of PPG Meeting at Loughton Surgery

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 5 pm  
Location: Loughton Surgery, Room 7  
Chair: Yvonne Collyer  
Minutes: Yvonne Collyer

1. **Apologies** Michael Higgins, Hazel Capal, Barry Capal
2. **Attendees** Yvonne Collyer, David Porter, David Darwin, Frank McLaughlan, June Nice, Stella Nolan, Derek Gale, Valerie Raphael
3. **Minutes from the last meeting:** Accepted with the following questions:

How many people are sent from our practice to have blood tests over the year or month? Surely St Margarets would be glad to have less people going there as it is now usually a 2 – 3 week wait for an appointment.

Members are very keen to have blood tests available at our practice.

Do doctors from our practice visit patients in person if they are in Care Homes?

Members would still like to know if a practice member can attend our meetings.

Was U3A (University of the Third Age) mentioned to Chloe the Social Prescriber as something she might suggest to people? There is a group here in Loughton.

4. **Information about the Role of the Practice Pharmacist from members who attended the meeting with Muneerah Alam.**

Everyone who met with Muneerah agreed that the meeting had been informative and useful.

Since the restructure in 2019, PCNs share Pharmacists and nurses employed by the PCN.

There are interactions between Doctors, Pharmacists and Prescription Clerks.

Prescription Clerks check before sending prescriptions to the community Pharmacy, that reviews are up to date (at our practice, not at all practices).

The Prescription Clerk will let the Pharmacist know if there is an issue.

There are two types of repeat prescriptions, 6 monthly repeat dispensing kept at the chemist ready for the patient, and those that are applied for monthly. Every three or six months the prescription item has to be checked and approved by a Doctor. Hence it will not appear on the list with a tick box.

Question: Why are items such as Insulin and other vital items not always allowed?

Muneerah is a specialist in Diabetes care and because of that with the use of Mounjaro injections. Mounjaro (tirzepatide) is highly effective for treating Type 2 diabetes. It significantly lowers blood sugar (HbA1c), improves insulin sensitivity, and promotes significant weight loss.

Question – Can we have the specialisms of the other three Pharmacists employed by the PCN, and when they are at our surgery put on the website for ease of access. Muneerah did say that the receptionists know the specialisms of each Pharmacist, but people would like to be able to see this information.

If wanting to speak with a Pharmacist it is not necessary to ring at 8 am. Patients having problems with repeat prescriptions can speak directly to a Pharmacist.

Some of the Pharmacists have been trained as Prescribers as well (like Muneerah)

All chronic conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, heart issues, dementia) will be reviewed across the year by a pharmacist, who may then call to discuss this with the patient.

##### 5. A.O.B.

There is a sit down Blood Pressure machine in the library, useful for calibrating your home B.P. machine.

People would like a leaflet with test sample packs, as information on the NHS App often differs from advice from the Practice medical personnel.

What qualifications does a Prescription Clerk have?

Do our doctors visit patients face to face in Care Homes?

Why would care plans be locked away in a Care Home? (CQC expect this to prevent passers by seeing them I've read online)

Which Care Home/s or Nursing Homes are in the area covered by our practice?  
When is the ICB restructure taking place? Is there any clarity on this as yet?

Could a bigger sign be added over displays of Minutes in the waiting rooms, such as -  
PLEASE READ THESE TO FIND OUT ABOUT YOU PRACTICE

6. Next meeting: 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2026 at 5pm