

**Almondsbury & Pilning PPG Autumn Meeting  
21 October 2025 18:00**

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**Attendees**

Nina Tilton (Chair), Helen Sanday (Deputy Chair), Christine Thomas (Secretary), Celia Beales, Tony Croft, Deb Davies, Michael Farmer, Tony Fennell, Robert Griffin, Sue Hewson, Pat Hinton, Duncan MacAulay, Richard Spence, Paula Miles, Dr Jenny Lockey

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**Apologies**

John Adams, Sue Cannon, Pamela Griffin, Mike Harrison, Ann Matthews, Maria McNally, Fiona Phipps, David Rayfield, Pat Rayfield, June Reynolds, Leona Roberts, Jackie Sanders, Dave Talbot, Julie Thursday, Edward Vicary, Paula Vicary, Val Denton  
Tony Spreadbury (Hanham PPG)

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**Guests**

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**Welcome, apologies and membership changes**

Nina welcomed everyone. She reminded everyone that it is not a forum to raise individual concerns/issues – there is a procedure in place in the surgeries for people who want to do this.

Nina informed the meeting that Albert George who was the chair of the Pilning PPG has decided to step down as a member of the PPG. Warm thanks were extended to him for all that he has done over the years.

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**Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the previous Almondsbury & Pilning meetings were approved.

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**Action Plan**

The Action Plan was reviewed and updated.

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**Our future PPG**

Both Almondsbury & Pilning PPGs agreed to the merger and this is the first joint meeting. It does mean that our group is quite large.

We need to rotate the venue to make it easier for the different PPGs to attend. Action: Celia to investigate suitable venues in or near Pilning and to let Paula know.

It was discussed whether we could hold the meetings by Zoom, but the consensus was that we preferred face to face meetings

We won't advertise it, but if people want to join, then we will let them join.

Action: In six months, when the joint PPG committee is well established, revisit the membership and check the diversity/representation of the committee.

Nina said that under our terms of reference, we said we would revisit the roles of Chair, Deputy Chair and secretary. Nina and Helen have been in post since 2023 and Christine from 2024. The three of them are prepared to continue, but are happy to step down if someone else wants to do one of the roles. Action: Nina to circulate the job description of the 3 roles and anyone interested to let Paula know which role they're interested in. If necessary, an election will be held via email before the next meeting.

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## **Fundraising**

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The practice have been looking at what would be appropriate.

Helen explained that it would be better to have a specific target and a specific product which can then be used to crowd fund.

It has to be done independently of the Practice bank account – the PPG would raise the money and donate it to the surgery. Crowd funder would collect the money and make the donation to the surgery on our behalf.

Sue raised the question about whether we should be doing this giving the number of actions we currently have. The use of a subgroup to do this was discussed. <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/>

Paula asked if we knew of any other PPGs that have done this. None of us did. Pat H suggested that the PPG could help promote hospital fundraising schemes e.g. neo-natal services which could potentially benefit a larger number of patients.

Dr Lockey suggested that we waited until there was a specific item that the surgeries needed, and then discussed it then. We also need to consider the ongoing maintenance of anything purchased and would need to be mindful of the patient/public sensitivity around the appropriateness of fundraising. The PPG agreed with this.

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## **Practice Update**

Val Denton has joined the group as Executive Manager, working 3 days a week. She sends apologies for the meeting but looks forward to meeting everyone. Val wonders if the PPG could support a patient survey and suggest options for questions from which we can collate the positives and act on any negatives.

Helen asked about the survey in the village shop. It's nothing to do with the surgery. Post meeting note: it's from Glebe house.

Dr Katie Gregory has completed her GP Training and has accepted a permanent position with Hanham Health. She will be working across Almondsbury and Pilning (Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday).

There have been GP Contract changes on 1st October

- Full access to medical services from 8am–6.30pm - impact on care navigation

### Autumn Vaccinations

Vaccinations are underway with good support and encouragement from patients. Some patients have not yet booked, but are eligible:

#### Flu

- Age 65+
- Age 2 – 3 years
- Patients in 'At Risk' group, with underlying health conditions
- Pregnancy
- Frontline workers
- Carers & Household contacts

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#### Covid

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- Age 75+
  - Severely immunocompromised patients

#### RSV

- Age 75–79
- Pregnancy

#### Pneumococcal

- Age 65+
- Patients in 'At Risk' group, with underlying health conditions

#### Shingles

- Age 70–79
- Severely immunocompromised adults aged 18+
- Patients turning 65 on or after 1/9/2025 (after their Birthday)

A question was asked about who is our named GP? It is on the Pilning & Almondsbury websites

Paula mentioned that there is a physio available at both surgeries.

A question was asked about whether there were any plans to have a chiroprapist at either of the surgeries. There aren't any plans.

The practice has noticed some confusion over the venue of booked appointments with some patients turning up at the wrong surgery and so missing or attending appointments late. Paula is conducting an audit/review and the PPG will review this at next meeting.

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#### **Hannam Health update**

No additions to the information above.

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#### **Standing item - Change NHS Impact of proposed service improvements in primary and secondary care – impact on patients, GPs and practices**

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NHS Acute Dashboard - NOF Acute Dashboard - NHS England Data Dashboard

Both North Bristol Trust (NBT) and University Hospitals Bristol and Weston (UHBT) are generally performing well. NBT is deemed as above average (ranked 24 of 134) and UHBT high performing (13 of 134). Neither are in financial deficit.

NBT is assessed as below average in finance and productivity with a score for notional productivity which is 112/134 and below average in effectiveness and experience of care where the score for the flow and discharge of patients is 109/126. UHBT is also below average in the latter - 98/126.

Is the 10 year Health Plan having any impact on patient care?

The diagnostic centre next to Asda seems to be having a positive benefit.

The orthopaedic centre at Southmead is new and good

Dermatology changes – clinicians can now upload photos for a faster diagnosis.

Dr Lockey explained that the intention is to make patient care more community led, hopefully funding will follow it.

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There is a working group in process talking about uniting the two Bristol hospitals. The detail is still being worked on.

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**A.O.B.**

No topics raised

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**Future Meetings**

<b>2026 meetings – suggested dates:</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>13 January 2026 (Pilning)</b>
	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>23 April 2026 (Almondsbury)</b>
	<b>Summer</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>6/13 July 2026 (Pilning)</b>
	<b>Autumn</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>20 October 2026 (Almondsbury)</b>

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**The meeting closed at 7:25 pm**