

A New GP surgery for Churchdown

Summary

The team at Churchdown Surgery urgently needs your support for our planning application to build our new surgery at Parton Road. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we have all struggled with the current building which has become increasingly unfit for purpose. We have fond memories about what has been our working home and a safe haven for our patients for so long. We do, however, want to provide our patients with a full range of primary care services in modern, comfortable, state-of-the-art premises.

Why the new Surgery is needed

There are a number of problems with our current building, which are limiting the facilities we can provide for our patients and the efficiency of the way we work as a team. The surgery is 50-years old and very dated by current healthcare standards. The available space has a maximum capacity by modern regulations to meet the needs of around 7,500 patients. It was never designed to accommodate our current population (13,800 patients). This is why it feels impossibly cramped.

We are currently unable to offer any additional services for our patients and even our secretarial and administration staff are located in a completely separate, temporary facility.

Further housing is planned for the area and our practice population is anticipated to rise to at least 18,500 and possibly 22,000. There is no statutory planning obligation for such new housing to take account of this patient growth (unlike education whereby sufficient school places have to be planned with new housing) and without new premises the residents of Churchdown and the surrounding areas face a real crisis in accessing GP facilities.

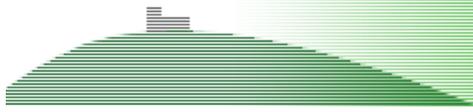
Benefits of the new Surgery

The new building will offer much better facilities for all patients, including those who have disabilities, people who are elderly and for parents with young children. The new site has been carefully chosen and the proposed building is visually attractive. Our current site has very limited roadside parking for patients and staff and this often leads to congestion in St. John's Avenue; at the new surgery there will be increased parking, with designated places for people with disabilities near to the entrance. The new surgery will have lifts, which will mean that patients who are unable to use the stairs will no longer have to wait for a downstairs consulting room to become available, or be seen in cramped side-rooms which lack computers and other vital equipment.

The new surgery will obviously be bigger but is designed to retain the welcoming and friendly environment of the current premises. As well as providing more consulting rooms and modern nurse treatment areas, the expanded space will allow us to increase our training role for future GPs, practice nurses and other primary care staff.

The chosen site

We know that new building developments in any area will never please all residents but the site location and design have been chosen to minimise this impact whilst giving the maximum benefit to the local community. The planning application details all of the environmental factors which have all been taken into careful consideration regarding the new building, and delightful landscaping will make this an attractive location for everybody to use.



Churchdown Surgery

Churchdown, Gloucester GL3 2DB 01452 899762

Next Steps

We are grateful to the Churchdown Community Association for surrendering their lease on the land and also Gloucester and Cheltenham councils for agreeing to sell this land for the new surgery. All three groups recognise the importance of allowing this facility to go ahead. We now need to ensure the planning department at Tewkesbury Borough Council gives permission.

We would urge all patients to contact the Council to support the planning application ASAP



The best way to do this is online at: www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/planning. The planning application number is 16/00877. Here you can view the full details of the proposal.

Alternatively you can email comments to: - john.hinett@tewkesbury.gov.uk or write to: - Mr John Hinett, Planning Department, Tewkesbury Borough Council, Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury GL20 5TT.

Your submission needs to include the reference number 16/00877, a heading including the word SUPPORT, your name, signature and address and one or more of the following key points: -

- The need for the Surgery
- Benefits of the new facility
- Agreement with the chosen site / location
- Support for the proposed design / layout
- Request that the decision be to grant consent
- Request the decision without delay to enable the facility to be built as soon as possible.

On behalf of Dr. J. Halliday & Partners of Churchdown Surgery