

Serial 5 from the 1st Response to the Examiner.

Examiner Question

In his Clarification Note the Examiner asked the question:

What is the current position of the surgery in terms of wider package?

The Parish Council responded by stating in its initial response:

We are unclear exactly what the Examiner is asking, and ask for clarification as to the exact nature of the information the Examiner is requesting.

The Examiner clarified by stating:

An update about the involvement/continued engagement of the Surgery in the Order proposal. It can be answered in whatever way the Parish Council either sees fit or is able to do so based on the current position.

PC Response

There have been significant changes in the ownership of Clifton Hampden Surgery. The partners at the time the NDO was both being planned and then released to the community (November 2020) are no longer partners or practising at Clifton Hampden today. The surgery partners attended 4 NDO Steering Group meetings from November 2019 until February 2020. There were no surgery representations at the NDO Steering Group from April 2020 until December 2020 (7 meetings). A consultant was hired to represent the partners and attended 9 meetings between December 2020 and December 2022. The consultant is no longer involved.

There is currently one doctor, Dr Peter Rubin, trading as a Sole Trader who holds the General Medical Services contract for the surgery. At the time of writing it is our understanding that there are no salaried GPs and so Locums and external resources are being used. The Surgery Principal, Dr Rubin, was unable to practise from October 2023 to February 2024. Thus, it is not surprising that he has not had much time to be involved in the NDO discussions or to be present in the various meetings that have taken place during the Clarification process.

The Parish Council met on two or three occasions with the Surgery Practice Manager, Mrs Amy Laker, who helped us with questions and provided a steer on surgery thoughts but was unable to make decisions without the Surgery Principal.

The Parish Council had one meeting with Dr Rubin on 28th February 2024 and the result of this was an updated letter of support signed by him as Surgery Principal. This letter is included with the Response to Objectors and PC Concerns document. At around the same time the Surgery Principal met with the Developer to discuss the Lease, but to date the Parish Council has received no update on this meeting.