PROPOSAL FOR THE REBUILDING OF FULBOURN HEALTH CENTRE

Fulbourn Health Centre is in a poor state of repair and it is now too small to meet the health needs of the local population. It occupies a large site and offers the chance for re-development for an ever-increasing population.

The building is owned by NHS Property Services and the Practice are one of the tenants of the building. We have been discussing a business case with them which will need the support of NHS England who hold the purse strings, to come to fruition.

We have suggested the demolition and rebuilding of the Health Centre. This would give the opportunity of building a multi-function building with increased capacity for consulting and treatment rooms. There could be an opportunity to build a 2-storey building, with possible housing, office space or further consulting rooms on the second floor. The building is on a large plot and it may be possible to reduce the overall footprint, whilst allowing a domestic dwelling to be built if that made it more financially viable for NHS England.

Fulbourn Health Centre could act as a suitable venue for locally commissioned services. The changes to our local health service mean that there is an added drive to reduce unnecessary visits to hospitals, where services could be provided in local communities. The Health Centre could act as a hub for community or mental health services, as well as providing outpatient consulting rooms for clinics. At the present time the building is used by Cambridge Community Services to provide Chiropody, Physiotherapy and Paediatric Audiology. We would welcome an expansion of these services, as well as considering new ones. We welcome the concept of “Care Closer to Home” and “developing community premises and estates that are fit for the future”

The Practice and representatives of the Patient Participation Group met NHS Property Services at the Health Centre in June 2014. Following that meeting an outline business case was presented to NHS Property Services. They have suggested that it might be helpful to involve their newly appointed Capital investment manager in refining the business case and give it the best chance of success before it is sent to NHS England. Over the months since then the Practice has been in touch with NHS Property services many times and continues to do so. NHS Property Services have been extremely busy and this meeting has not yet taken place despite the efforts of the Practice to arrange it. We will continue to press for a date.