



WOODSTOCK TOWN COUNCIL: NEW DOCTORS' SURGERY UPDATE

URGENT NEED FOR A NEW DOCTORS' SURGERY YOUR VOICE - YOUR CHOICE

Woodstock Town Council have unanimously agreed that they support locating a new Doctors' Surgery on the old Thames Valley Police site on Hensington Road. (See overleaf.)

We very much value the doctors and staff at the Woodstock Surgery who provide an excellent service despite the poor condition of the building, but, with the planned growth of the town and surrounding villages we all accept the current site is not fit for purpose.

The TVP site was bought by Blenheim Estate in 2014 for it to be considered for a relocated surgery. This is the only site that is currently available with utilities already in place. But, on the advice of a specialist consulting architect paid for by Blenheim Estate, this site is deemed to be unsuitable, although we've not been told why..

After the Town Meeting of November 2024, a 'stakeholders steering group' was formed, comprising Calum Miller MP, together with representatives from the Doctors, Blenheim Estate, the ICB, OCC and WODC. Woodstock Town Councillors have been excluded from this important group. The only sites the group are considering are: a) Banbury Road (which has outline planning permission) and b) the KID1 proposal in Cherwell DC adjacent to Park View (which currently has no planning permission). This means that any building of a doctors' surgery on either of these sites would be many years away.

Housing development in and around Woodstock is only going to accelerate. Blenheim Estate is finalising Park View, and has started Hill Rise (180 units). The Banbury Road site is currently at 234 units but it's expected this will rise to 1,000 units in autumn 2025. Ryegrass will have 32 new units. Add in the Cherwell site and Woodstock is expected to grow by over 1,800 units in the coming years.

The Town Council believe we need a modern surgery now to cope with the projected rise in the population and that the only site that is deliverable in the short to medium term is the old TVP site on Hensington Road.

We are asking for your views. **Should we press on with seeking to secure the old TVP site for a new doctors' surgery, or should we sit back and be guided by the steering group?** Please let us know what you think by emailing: clerk@woodstock-tc.gov.uk or writing to: Town Clerk, Woodstock Town Hall, Market Place, Woodstock, OX20 1SL. Please reply by: 12th August 2025.

Thank you,

Cllr Ann Grant
Town Mayor

Motions unanimously passed by Woodstock Town Council 22nd July 2025

1. Motion:

Proposed by Cllr Grant

Seconded by Cllr Addis

Woodstock Town Council agrees that the preferred site for a new Doctors' Surgery is the old Thames Valley Police site in Hensington Road for the following reasons:

- a) It was purchased by Blenheim for consideration of the provision of a new Doctors' Surgery;*
- b) The utilities are already in place, aiding a much quicker delivery of a much-needed facility;*
- c) It is in walking distance for many;*
- d) The site is already on a bus route to accommodate the 60% of patients living outside the Town;*
- e) It is in a much better position with regards to security;*
- f) Siting a new surgery on either of the two alternative sites far from the town centre will have a negative impact on the Town's economy;*
- g) The two suggested alternative sites are not what the town was expecting as Blenheim Estate had stated that the purpose of their purchasing the TVP site was for consideration of the provision of a new surgery, and for many years they allowed the belief that this was to be the intended use.*

2. Motion:

Proposed by Cllr Grant

Seconded by Cllr Addis

- a) WTC is not in favour of plans for a new building outside the town centre, far from bus routes, and unlikely to be built for 5 to 15 years;*
- b) WTC states its profound disappointment with the way in which the 'Stakeholders' Steering Group' has been set up and run, taking no account of the views of the Town Council or those of the residents of Woodstock and the surrounding villages served by the present surgery.*

NOTE: For ease of access, a copy of the approved minutes from the most recent 'stakeholders' steering committee' is available from the Woodstock Town Council Website at: <https://woodstock-tc.gov.uk/copy-of-the-approved-minutes-of-the-stakeholders-meeting/>

If you wish to contact your MP or your County Councillor about the location and timing of the new doctors' surgery, their email details are:

Calum Miller MP: calum.miller.mp@parliament.uk

Andy Graham: Andy.Graham@oxfordshire.gov.uk