

Stalbridge Surgery

In May 2016 Dr Clayton's letter in the BVM explained that he was actively looking to leave the Surgery after 24 years.

January 2017 brought the news that a proposed merger between Stalbridge and the Blackmore Vale Partnership would take place in October 2017. Regrettably, this merger has been placed on hold, presenting Stalbridge Surgery with the problem that after 17 months it has not been possible to find anyone who wishes to run General Practice medical facilities from the premises in Station Road.

This situation, regrettably not unique to Stalbridge, raises the very real possibility that the Surgery will close. Whilst the timescale is uncertain, this is unlikely to happen for at least 12 months during which time Stalbridge Surgery will continue to provide General Practice services to the registered patient population. Dr Clayton has recently successfully recruited new members of staff to enable this.

The PPG are deeply disappointed that the exemplary service we receive from Dr Clayton and his team would appear to be time limited. This appears to be symptomatic of the current NHS system and the lack of qualified doctors who want to go in to full time General Medical practice. We are lucky that we have such a dedicated and wonderful team, who currently serve us so well.

We will keep the patients of the Surgery informed with hard facts when available as to how future NHS care will be provided for our local community. Dr Clayton has accepted the Town Council's invitation to attend the Town Meeting on Weds 24th May, 7.30pm at Stalbridge Village Hall.

Stalbridge Surgery Patient's Participation Group

To be involved in the PPG contact keith.harrison@dorsetccg.nhs.uk, NHS Dorset CCG Patient and Public Involvement Development Worker