

Georgia Culligan

Kimberley Medical Centre Protest!

Absolute chaos was caused at the Parish Hall on Tuesday, defending Kimberley Medical Centre, as it may be shut down. The protesters were holding signs that read 'SOS Save Our Surgery'.

Nottinghamshire Primary Care Trust organised a meeting to have a formal conversation on the options residents and patients had to take on board, considering the retirement of Dr Ramish Sandhu at the end of March. Furious patients shouted and raged about this incident!

PCT say there are three options for residents and patients; patients register other practices, the trust uses the surgery as a branch of another local practice or it advertises nationally for a new provider.

A phone call between myself, Georgia Culligan and an employee at the Kimberley Medical Centre, Julia E (cannot specify name);

Julia E has reported that it is not the Kimberley Medical Centre that has made the closure decision, it is actually the Primary Care Trust. Kimberley Medical Centre is trying its hardest to fight against this closure. One of the questions Julia E was asked, was; Why is it that only one doctor is retiring, it is causing the whole centre to ***possibly*** close down? Julia's answer was "We have no idea why, it is not something we expected to happen, it may not happen, we are fighting against it. It is not a choice we made, it is the Primary Care Trust that made this choice." Page 2 has the full interview.

The Full Interview with Julia Ellis :

GC:Why is it that only one doctor retiring means for the whole centre to close down ?

JE:We have no idea why, it is not something we expected to happen, it may not happen, we are fighting against it. It is not a choice we made, it is the Primary Care Trust that made this choice.

GC:Right, yes I see, I think it is pretty ridiculous myself. Do you know who could possibly take over from Doctor Sandhu?

JE:Well, there are several GP's who could take his place, but obviously I cannot name any of them.

GC:Yes that's fine, but there are so many patients that will have to apply for a new doctor and medical centre, if this closure does take place, where will they go?

JE:They could go to doctor Hammed just down the road, or they could also apply for Eastwood or Giltbrook, which is a distance for the Swingate and Nuthall area, and is a bit of a pain for Kimberley residents, and some medical centres only take 400 patients.

GC:Will the Kimberley Medical Clinic be signing the patients onto a new doctors clinic? Or will the patients have to do it themselves?

JE:Well, as it is the patients choice where they go, they will have to do it themselves.

GC:Right, well that is all, thankyou for your time.

JE:Bye thanks.

Words By Georgia Culligan, Kimberley School, Year 8

