

14th August 2007

Work Starts on New GP Premises In Braintree, Blandford House Surgery, Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex

Senior GP Partner Dr Ian Gibson will be cutting the turf at a ceremony to celebrate the start of a brand new surgery development taking place at Rayne Road in Braintree. This new development will transform local healthcare for around 15,000 people in the surrounding community. It is being developed on the part of the site of the former St. Michaels Hospital and is scheduled for completion by summer 2008.

This excellent new surgery will be a 2-storey building, fully accessible for disabled and elderly visitors and young families and compliant with the latest environmental legislation. The doctors and senior staff have worked closely with Ashley House, the developers, to ensure that the design of the building fits the pattern of work-flow and meets all the needs of the practice and its' patients. The building will also incorporate accommodation for a retail pharmacy to be located on site.

All the services provided at the current surgery will remain and with additional space available, options for extending the range of services will be considered, with a view to providing diversity of care for patients and promoting the use of specialist health care professionals.

The plans and drawings for the new surgery can be viewed at the existing Blandford House surgery and regular progress reports will be posted in practices monthly patient newsletter and on their website.

'The original scheme also included a second new surgery building together with a new PCT Community Hospital. However, financial constraints have halted the plans for the larger scheme so the Blandford House project has therefore progressed independently and despite being dogged with delays, is now becoming a reality after 6 years of negotiation.

Dr Ian Gibson Senior GP Partner says "We are delighted at last to see the reality of a new and modern surgery arriving. We had hoped, with our original plans, to have the new hospital alongside – we continue to hope."



BUILDING WORK: Primary care trust officials, doctors and nursing staff at the site of the soon to be built surgery.

Digging doctors

THE building of a new doctors' surgery which will provide health care for 15,000 people has been marked with a turf-cutting ceremony.

Two GPs at the Braintree's Blandford House surgery, Dr Abdul Rashid and David Williams, formally commenced building work on the site at the former St

Michael's Hospital in Rayne Road.

The Blandford House surgery is expected to move into the new building in the summer of 2008.