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## Thaxted Surgery Planning Application – Have your say

Dear Patient

Thaxted Surgery has submitted a planning application for an extension over our car park. We would like our patients to take the opportunity to express their views.

The extension is funded from a grant provided by NHS England, which we've fought very hard to secure, and which has to be spent before March 2019. As a practice, we feel that this grant presents a once in a generation opportunity to secure a future for primary care health services in Thaxted. We are lucky to have got it, given that NHS strategy is fast moving in favour of health care provision in larger hubs provided by federations of GP practices. Without our extension, the risk is that Thaxted surgery will evolve into a branch surgery with reduced services and reduced opening times, and it will be increasingly difficult to attract the best clinicians to work here.

That said, we recognise the heritage of Thaxted and that new building is often unwelcome to residents. We have to work within technical specifications and financial restraints provided by the NHS, but we have also tried to make the building fit the local vernacular, and the designs have evolved to try and reduce the bulk of the extension by refurbishing the existing building, by wrapping the extension around the existing building, and by creating a basement.

We are also, of course, losing 10 of our 12 parking spaces. That, alongside growth that we are already experiencing in patient numbers, may put pressure on the public car park. Our planning application does include a survey of parking showing some capacity still in the public parking. Nevertheless, we appreciate concerns about parking and we are very much in discussion with local institutions and businesses to find alternative parking for staff.

We recognise that different individuals will be impacted differently and have different views. However, we want to find the right solution for Thaxted, and we would strongly encourage you to express your views. **This is your chance to support your local surgery and make a difference to the future of health care for you and your future generations. Please e-mail comments, whether positive or negative, either to the parish council at [clerk@thaxted.co.uk](mailto:clerk@thaxted.co.uk) or directly to the planners via <http://publicaccess.uttlesford.gov.uk>, ref UTT/17/3412/FUL**

The designs can be viewed in the surgery, on our website [www.Thaxed-Surgery.co.uk](http://www.Thaxed-Surgery.co.uk). and on the Uttlesford database, <http://publicaccess.uttlesford.gov.uk>. You are also very welcome to make an appointment to see the practice manager, Sara Carruthers to discuss the application and to see the 3D computer model representation.

Doctors and Staff at Thaxted Surgery

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