

The Orford and District Surgery Trust
Report from Lynette Morton , Iken Representative

The Charity was set up by the Trustees in 1980 to secure and build a surgery building in Orford for the benefit of Orford and Gedgrave, Iken, Chillesford, Sudbourne, and Butley parishes. The Trustees made arrangements for the day-to-day business of the Trust to be achieved by a management committee of representatives of the five parishes, all of whom are volunteers.

The management committee oversees two charitable elements:

1. The Orford and District Surgery Trust which can fund the provision of medical equipment and facilities for the surgery.
2. The Esmond House Legacy Care Fund which can fund the provision of medical equipment and services for frail older persons and disabled people resident in the five parishes to support them to live independently at home.

During 2019/2020 the Charity funded extra nursing and health care assistant hours at Orford surgery, supported the continuous professional development of practice staff, allocated Orford Primary School a payment for extra teaching assistant hours to support children with additional health needs, paid for tree surgery and shrub clearance to the area surrounding the surgery car park to obviate car park flooding, purchased a defibrillator for Chillesford, funded a venue for the Flu vaccination day, put up new signs for Chapman House building and paid for alterations to the building so that the dispensary could operate from a dedicated window. Currently the Trust is in the process of buying a Doppler machine for the Orford Surgery.

This year the Esmond House charity is helping to pay for call monitors and/or key safes, through the Good Neighbour Scheme, for those elderly and vulnerable people in the locality who are in need and would not otherwise be able to afford them.

The Trust and Management committee agreed a plan, suggested by our Chair, Katharine Silver-Murphy with support from Sue Johnson and Corinne Lusher, that we all work to support the health care needs of the users of Chapman House surgery and ensure the surgery remains in Orford for the use of the community in the future.

To that end, two main projects are currently underway, i) to establish a new internal repairing lease with the practice and ii) to change the Orford and District Surgery Charitable Trust into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Both these projects are well underway and should be completed by the end of the year.