

Rationale for Buying Defibrillators.

1. Public Health and Safety.

- Current average waiting times for a response for a Category 1 incident (e.g. cardiac arrest) in the South West (**here!**) is **11 minutes 4 seconds**. The worst in the country.
- The national target for this category is **8 minutes**.
- Even if this target response time was achieved, your chances of surviving a cardiac arrest would only be **6%!**
- However, if someone used a defibrillator on you within 5 minutes, your chances of survival would increase to **50%**. Within 3 minutes, your survival chances would increase to **74%!**
- South West Ambulance Service suggest an optimal distance of 400m from the patient to the defibrillator to achieve best outcomes.
- We are proposing to site one at the Rising Sun pub and one near Hatt Service Station/shop. Sample distances from each are:
- Service Station to:

Heckberry Barn	410m
End of Andrews Way	402m
Rear parking for Carlton Villas	177m
Far end of Rec Field	329m
End of Stuart's Way	403m
Jct of Sunnybanks and Fairmead	400m
Dovecote Barns	353m
The Croft	645m!

- Rising Sun to:

Botus Crossroads	295m
Briworthy Meadow	400m
Church Hall	372m
St Mary's Church	170m

- So a large number of residents would be within an optimal distance of a defibrillator.

2. Costings.

DIY Package.

- **Cabinets**
External cabinets. circa £500 + VAT for an unlocked one
- **Semi-Automatic Defibrillators.**
Basic: DeFiSign Life Semi-Automatic Defibrillator at £898 (+ VAT)
Total cost (Cabinet plus Defib) would be:
 - £1398 + VAT
 - These prices do not include any training or support

Cost of two devices would be £2,796.00 + VAT
- We would need to register the devices with “The Circuit” and carry out the necessary monthly checks to ensure the devices are recognised by the 999 service.
- [National Defibrillator Network - The Circuit | BHF](#)

SWAS Defibrillator Schemes.

- See separate document for full details
- Essentially a loan scheme. The defibrillator remains the property of the Trust, but they provide all equipment and necessary support to maintain it and replace parts, if necessary, through use or expiry.
Annual AED awareness course provided.
- Full package including defibrillator, cabinet and training costs
£1,800.00 (+VAT)
- If bought within 12months, a second device would cost £1,000 (+VAT)
- **Total cost for 2 devices: £2,800 (+ VAT)**

NB. This is an agreement that must be renewed every four years. So spread over 4 years that's equivalent to £700 p.a.

The defibrillator they provide is a “Cardiac Science G5, Semi- Automatic” if bought separately it costs £1,025 + VAT. A cabinet would cost £600 + VAT. Total cost £1,625 + VAT.. Two devices plus cabinet would be £3,250 (+VAT). No training or support provided.

3. Recommendation.

Botusfleming Parish Council believes that there is a strong public health case for purchasing two defibrillators given the current less than optimal waiting times for an ambulance. This situation is unlikely to improve for some (many?) years given the current levels of public spending. If the two devices are situated in the suggested locations, they would be available for many residents to achieve an optimal outcome should they suffer a cardiac arrest.

BFPC believes that of the two options outlined above, the SWAS scheme is to be preferred over the DIY option given the comprehensive support package that it includes. At a cost of approximately £700 p.a. this would equate to a notional cost of approximately £2 p.a. for each of the 350 households in the village. We believe this is very good value for money, and could save lives.

Cllr Malcolm Fletcher, August 2022.