

WESTON ON THE GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

5th February 2025 Parish Council Meeting



Agenda Item 25:418.10 Playing Field Defibrillator Purchase

1. Background

An action from the Parish Councils 2024/25 budget was the option to install a defibrillator at the playing field. This has been investigated, taking into account the difficulty that there is no power to support the heating of the unit.

A solar powered cabinet was researched. Community Heartbeat, who installed a unit at the Village Hall confirmed that they found the solar units to be unreliable but technology has been created now so you can have a thermal bagged unit without the need for a power source, however this is not widely available. Community Heartbeat provided the solution equipment and a quote, other companies were then researched as a comparison.

2. Cost of Project and Quotes

2.1 Community Heartbeat Charity (leaders in community defibrillation)

Quote comprises:

- Zoll AED 3 & thermal bag as a carry case: £1,550.00
- Sentry stainless steel cabinet with dual skin and insulation, locked and unpowered: £795.00
- Sentry stainless steel post: £275.00
- Defibrillator signage: £35.00
- Rescue safety kit: £15.00
- Community training awareness, face to face session: £0.00

Total Cost - defibrillator, cabinet, post, delivery, training (free), signage: **£2,695.00 (excl VAT)**

Installation: by a competent person only, no electrician needed as no power unit.

Ongoing support, advice and maintenance: Community Heartbeat advised not to take the support and monitor the usage once fitted. They are happy to retrofit annual support if we find that the unit is used regularly and credit any monies already paid towards replacement parts.

The battery has a 3-4 year life and the pads last c5 years.

Current pricing (excl VAT): Battery - £124.00

Pad - £129.00

2.2 Defib4Life (online quote): <https://defib4life.co.uk/>

Quote comprises:

- Zoll AED 3 fully automatic defibrillator: £1,245.00
- Zoll AED 3 Defibrillator Carry Case: £106.00
- DefibCaddy Defibrillator Cabinet - insulated, no electrics, locked yellow: £410.00
- Defibsafe 2 Public Access Defibrillator free standing post: £165.00
- 3D Metal Defibrillator AED Wall Sign: £24.00
- Training, CPR & AED (up to 12 delegates): £195.00

Total Cost of defibrillator, cabinet, post, delivery, training, signage: **£2,145.00 (excl VAT)**

2.3 Comments from enquiries of other companies over unpowered options:

London Hearts: “Unfortunately the external cabinets that house the defibrillators do require a power supply as their purpose is to protect the defibrillator in cold weather as the cold can cause permanent damage to the actual defibrillator internally which may result in it not working when required. Some people do decide to take the risk and house the defibrillator in an unheated cabinet but this is a risk they choose to take and not one we would advise.

A couple of companies have tried to create a solar powered cabinet however these have not always been effective and they come at a very high cost of over £2,500.00 exc VAT for the solar cabinet alone. They also only come with a 12month-2year warranty. We currently choose not to supply a solar powered cabinet until a more effective version becomes available.”

British Heart Foundation: “I am sorry, we can only recommend that the defib is kept in a heated external cabinet when outside, and these will need an electricity supply. I am aware of some solar powered cabinets available, but they are quite expensive.”

The Defib Pad: “Without a source of power that would be a difficult one as the external cabinets have heaters in to regulate temperature. Without the heater there is a chance the battery could suffer.”

3. Funding for Project

The following outlines the funding obtained for the defibrillator:

- ❖ Parish Council Reserves Allocated Funding - £1,500.00
- ❖ Midcounties Co-operative grant (received 17/01/25) - £346.00
- ❖ OCC Councillor Priority Fund (historic re-allocated funding) - £865.00

Total funding in Parish Council bank account - £2,711.00

Note: Any VAT amount would be covered by the Contingency budget line until the VAT is claimed back via HMRC.

Note: Unfortunately other grants available e.g. via the Government require the defibrillator to be located in a place with a power source and we are therefore not eligible.

4. Resolution

The Finance Advisory Group and Playing Field lead have reviewed the quotes and it is proposed that the quote from Community Heartbeat is accepted as the most suitable and viable option for the project, providing a quality tested product alongside advice, training and ongoing maintenance support.

Resolution To Approve a spend of up to £2,695.00 excluding VAT to purchase a defibrillator for the playing field car park as detailed in the summary report.