

Hardington Mandeville Parish Council (Executive Decision)

Strategic Director: Rina Singh, Strategic Director – Place and Performance
Assistant Director: Kim Close, Assistant Director - Communities
Service Manager: Kim Close, Area Development Manager - South
Lead Officer: Natalie Ross, Community Development Officer
Contact Details: natalie.ross@southsomerset.gov.uk or (01935) 462956

Purpose of the Report

To consider funding towards a community defibrillator.

Public Interest

Community grants are available in each area to voluntary and charitable organisations, not-for-profit groups, Parish or Town councils and other organisations that benefit the wider community. Applications are encouraged that meet a clearly identified local need.

Recommendation

That members agree an award of £1,374 from the Area South Community Grants budget.

Background

Following a Cardiac Arrest the chance of survival decreases by 23% per minute. It is therefore imperative that medical treatment starts as soon as possible.

A defibrillator delivers an electrical current through the chest which aims to shock the heart back into a normal rhythm allowing it to pump again. A quick response using automated technology can significantly improve the persons quality of life, as the longer the brain is starved of oxygen, the more damage occurs. An AED is a portable defibrillator especially designed for people with no medical background. When applied to the victim, voice commands and screen messages guide the user through the process and the technology will only allow it to shock a 'shockable' heart rhythm. AED technology opens a window for the public to take on a key role to support emergency services who would otherwise be hindered by the time it takes to reach the victim.

The rates of survival for people experiencing sudden cardiac arrest are 5% with CPR alone and 50% with defibrillation.

Project

Recent evidence suggests that public access defibrillation is almost 10x more effective in saving lives. This is nothing to do with skills of the responders, but simply a factor of time. To get a good outcome, medical help needs reach the patient within 4-5 minutes.

Hardington Mandeville Parish Council want to purchase a community defibrillator that will be held in a secure cabinet in the village. When the emergency services are called, if necessary, the cabinet code will be given to the caller.

Although the unit can be used by anyone, the company supplying it will provide training and a number of volunteers willing to undertake the training have already been identified.

Ward Members Comments

Cllr Seaton commented that it is an excellent idea and it will be an additional Health and Safety resource for the village.

Cllr Cathy Bakewell commented that Hardington Parish Council is hardworking and diligent in trying to provide the facilities it believes the villagers would like. Through sheer dint of hard work they managed to secure a multipurpose recreation ground for future generations of village children. They have been discussing the provision of a defibrillator for some time and I am pleased they have decided to go ahead with this facility and are providing some of the funds needed for its provision. The village of Hardington is only 4 miles from Yeovil but the road is single track with passing places during some of its length. This could mean a critical delay in an ambulance arriving for someone who has a heart attack or failure. The defibrillator being on the scene, with trained people available, could help to save a life in a situation where time is critical. I fully support this grant application.

Assessment Scoring

Below is the summary table from the grant assessment form. It is recommended that funding is only awarded to projects scoring 22 points or more.

Category	Score	Maximum score
A Eligibility	Y	
B Equality Impact	1	7
C Project	2	5
D Capacity of Organisation	15	15
E Financial need	7	7
F Innovation	3	3
<i>Grand Total</i>	24	37

Funding Breakdown

Funding Sources	% Funding of the Total Project Cost	Amount of Funding (£)	Status
Parish Council	50	1374	Secured
SSDC Area South Grants	50	1374	This application
Total Project Cost	100%	2,748	

Financial Implications

The uncommitted 2014/15 community budget stands at £6,230. If members agree this award of £1,374 it will leave a balance of £4,856.

Corporate Priority Implications

The project contributes to the Council Plan Focus Four: Health and Communities

Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications (NI188)

None

Equality and Diversity Implications

None.

Background Papers: None.