

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 12 June 2023

Title: Defibrillator Review & Request from Madley Hall Trust

Contact Officer: Operations Manager - Angus Whitburn

Background

Madley Park residents' association have contact Witney Town Council with the request that the Council takes over the ownership and maintenance of the defibrillator installed outside of Madley Park Hall. The resident's association paid for the purchase and installation of the device but since are finding it unsustainable going forward due to the cost of replacement pads and batteries.

Current Situation

Witney Town council currently maintains 5 defibrillators across Witney, this includes all the periodic checks and the replacement of pads and batteries. The ongoing care of these units isn't quite straight forward as many have been produced with factory defects, and officers have had to organise the replacement through the manufacturer's multiple times, which is a time intensive exercise.

Taking over ownership of defibrillators is made easier when they are on land the council is directly maintaining / regularly visiting. This means a 30 second job can be added onto a larger job with minimal impact. The only land and property Witney Town council own in Madley Park is Madley Park Hall and the green outside of the building. Although Madley Park Hall is owned by the Town Council, the building is run by its tenants and the green is cut by UBICO. Logistically this makes a small task larger as the only purpose for council staff to be on Madley Park estate would be to check the device.

The residents' association at this time haven't raised issue with the periodic checks, just the cost of maintaining the unit. Operationally, asking the resident's association to continue being the guardians for the unit, but the council adopting the cost would be the best outcome.

Environmental impact

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

Defibrillators are vital lifesaving equipment and survival rates are increased to 50% - 70% when one can be deployed.

Financial implications

Described here or as stated in the report above.

- The council holds a defibrillator expenditure budget that would cover the cost of the replaced pads and batteries for another unit in the current yearly and for ongoing years.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and consider the following:

1. Agree to funding replacement pads and batteries for the unit at Madly Park Hall and,
2. The Madley Park residents continue to carry out periodic checks on the defibrillator and notify Witney Town Council when expired or replacement items are required.