

Agenda Item 12 – Purchase of Defibrillator Training Aid and Manikin Set for CPR

The Council has received a request to consider the purchase of a defibrillator training aid and a manikin set for the local community. This would enable local people to be trained to effectively use the defibrillators in the village and to administer CPR to people within all age groups.

Location of Defibrillators in Willand

There are three 24/7 accessible defibrillators in Willand – Outside the Gables Pre-school, the Post Office and Pencarrie. There is also a defibrillator at Willand Rovers Football Club, which is accessible when the ground is open.

Cost

The cost for the training defibrillator is £395 plus VAT.

The cost for the manikin set for CPR training is £525 plus VAT.

Overall cost: £920 plus VAT.

Training

The proposed trainer is a local resident who is a First Aid qualified and will provide the training free of charge at the Willand Health & Community Centre. So far around 40 local people have put their names down for the training following a Facebook post on the Defibrillator for Willand page, which was shared by the Parish Council and other local groups. This is more than sufficient to run several training events and there are opportunities to promote further training events more widely, for example through local businesses and the magazine.

Budget & Spending Power

The Council can use S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 for expenditure where there is no other specific power. This should be spent on projects, services and facilities, which will benefit the local area and its residents. The training will provide for a core of people within the village who are able to administer CPR and who are familiar with the use of the defibrillator – their contact details could be added to the Emergency Plan with their permission. All residents, visitors and those employed locally could potentially benefit as anyone could have a medical emergency necessitating CPR and/or use of a defibrillator.

The Council may spend up to £9.93 per elector, under S137. The number of electors in Willand as at December 2023 was 2,678, making the available spend £26,592.54. The Council already has a budget under Village Projects of £200 to pay for defibrillator replacement pads and batteries and has spent £156.24 this year. The only other items of spend under S137 have been donations to charities, for which there is a budget of £360 with £110 spent so far and a further request being considered at item 11 on this same meeting agenda. The Council is therefore well within the permitted spend.

It is suggested that if approved, the cost should be paid from the Community Facilities Reserve, the current balance of which is £12,677.50.

Ownership & Storage

The defibrillator training aid and manikin set will be owned by the Parish Council and be added to the Asset Register. It will be stored at the Gables Pre-school where the local organiser and trainer is a director.