

Bramshott and Liphook Parish Council
Report for Council Meeting 25th February 2019

Location and Choice of Defibrillators

Background

The Council has approved a budget of £6,000 for the provision of defibrillators in the parish (26th November 2018 minute 115/18) and has agreed to locate the first defibrillator outside the Liphook Millennium Centre (18th December 2018 minute 130/18). Other locations are still to be considered.

Factors to consider

Location

Power supply - Most defibrillator manufacturers recommend a storage temperature above 0°C to avoid battery malfunction and pad deterioration, and the South Central Ambulance Service¹ recommends that the cabinet housing an outdoor defibrillator has a built in heating element. A power supply will therefore need to be available.

Public accessibility - The Resuscitation Council (UK)² and the South Central Ambulance Service¹ recommend making a defibrillator publically accessible at all times. Consideration should therefore be given to 24 hour accessibility when choosing a location.

Coverage - South Central Ambulance Service has an activation radius of 400 metres. This means that a patient has to be within 400 metres of a defibrillator for it to show up on their system. Locations should therefore be sensibly positioned in relation to each other and the surrounding area, ensuring that a good level of cover is provided without gaps or unnecessary overlap.

Choice of defibrillator

Model - Whilst there are many models of defibrillator available, the Community Heartbeat Trust³ rates defibrillators against a number of criteria and has recommended three current models as the most suitable for community use by untrained users. The South Central Ambulance Service¹ has also provided details of the most popular defibrillators within the area. The Powerheart G5 falls into both these groups and would therefore be the sensible choice of model.

Cabinet - The cabinet storing the defibrillator can either be locked or unlocked. Whilst the general advice of the British Heart Foundation² is that cabinets should be kept unlocked to provide quicker access to the defibrillator, a locked cabinet would make it less susceptible to theft or vandalism ensuring that the device is available and operational in the event of it being needed. The South Central Ambulance Service¹ suggests that an externally stored defibrillator be kept in a locked cabinet. It should be registered with them and the control room would then issue the access code should the device be needed. As discussed above, the cabinet for an outdoor device should also be heated.

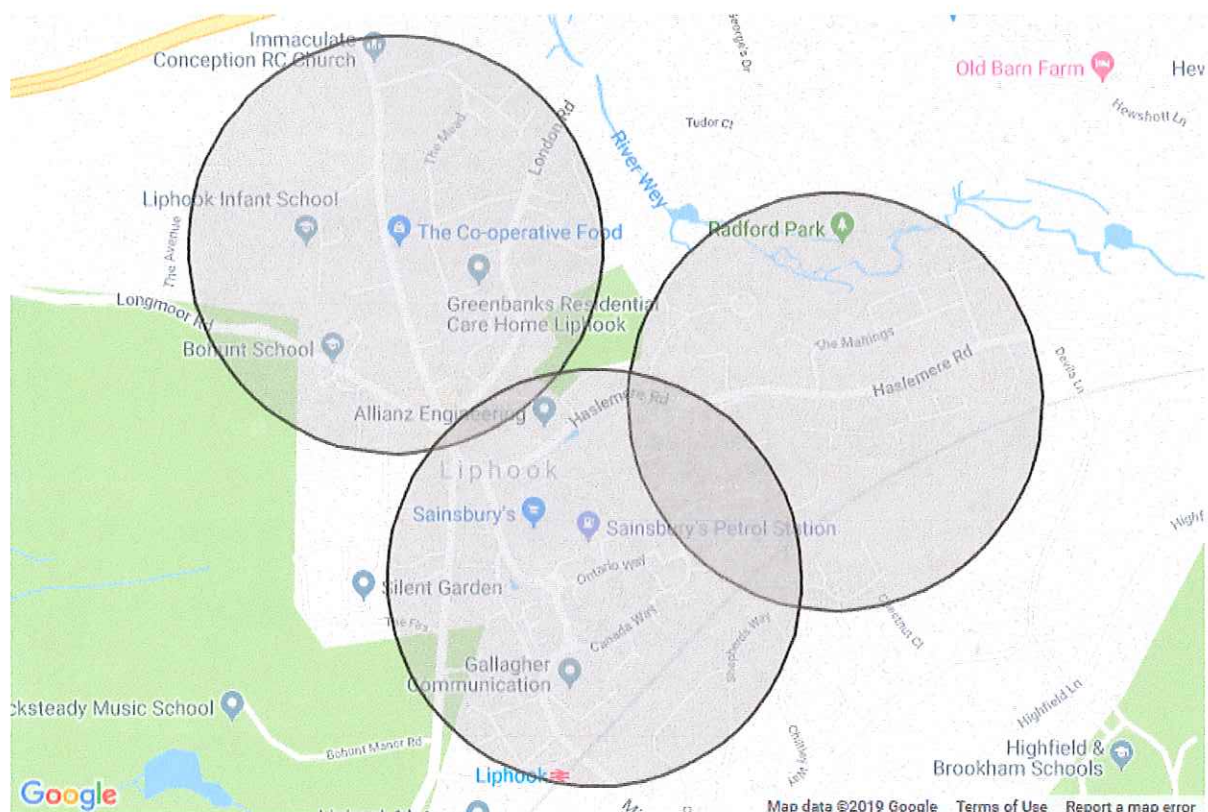
Recommended Locations

Liphook Millennium Centre - This location has already been agreed by Council. It is accessible to the public and connecting it to an electrical supply should be a straightforward process for a competent electrician.

Manor Fields - The Council has adopted a red BT telephone kiosk at the junction of Manor Fields and Haslemere Road. BT have confirmed that, as far as they are aware, this kiosk still has a power supply. Should a defibrillator be installed, they will continue to be responsible for the supply and payment of the power and they will guarantee to retain the supply for 7 years. As the kiosk is in a poor state of repair, the cost of refurbishment will need to be taken into account.

The Co-op - The Council has adopted a BT telephone kiosk at the junction of Headley Road and Tower Road near the Co-op. The situation with regards to power supply is as per the Manor Fields kiosk above and again, the cost of refurbishment will need to be taken into account although it will be less for this modern style kiosk.

All three of these locations are accessible to the public 24 hours a day and have access to a power supply. Together they will provide good coverage for the central residential areas of Liphook with little overlap as shown below, albeit with a degree of overlap with the defibrillator currently located at the Peak Centre.



Cost

The following costs are based on current prices and special offers and are subject to change:

Powerheart G5, cabinet, installation (Millennium Centre)	£1,605
2 x Powerheart G5, cabinet suitable for phone kiosk, installation (BT kiosks)	£4,215
Total (excluding kiosk refurbishment costs)	£5,820

This would bring the purchase and installation of the defibrillators within budget. However in addition to this, an amount would be needed for necessary refurbishment of the telephone kiosks. This would need to include as a minimum painting the red telephone kiosk and repair work to both kiosks' door opening mechanisms, but does not need to include replacing missing glass panes unless the Council wishes to undertake a complete refurbishment of the kiosks. It is difficult to assess exactly what the refurbishment costs would be without a full investigation, but an additional budget of at least £500 would be recommended to cover the necessary work.

Recommendation to Council

Council is recommended to:

1. Agree the purchase and installation of a Powerheart G5 defibrillator and heated, lockable cabinet outside the Millennium Centre
2. Agree the location for 2 additional defibrillators in the BT telephone kiosks located at Manor Fields and the Co-op
3. Agree an additional budget of at least £500 for necessary kiosk refurbishment work
4. Agree the purchase and installation of Powerheart G5 defibrillators with suitable heated, lockable cabinets in the 2 telephone kiosks, subject to refurbishment work being achievable within the additional budget agreed above

Denise Meek
Deputy Executive Officer
11th February 2019

¹ Public Access Defibrillators Information Pack February 2018 (South Central Ambulance Service)

² A guide to Automated External Defibrillators (Resuscitation Council (UK) and British Heart Foundation)

³ Project Guide: Providing a Community Defibrillator (The Community Heartbeat Trust)