Ordinary Meeting of Harberton Parish Council
Tuesday 17 November 2026

Item 11.1 Parish defibrillators
Update and consideration of actions

Proposals from the clerk for consideration by the parish council:

To consider:

- Contracting an electrician to look at the flickering lights
- Resolve issues on managing updates on The Circuit for the defibrillator in Harberton.
- Hold current reserves for maintaining the defibrillators - buying any consumable parts as needed from other suppliers.
- Begin to build reserves to purchase new defibrillators when these have reached the end of their serviceable life (i.e. when showing critical errors through the regular checks).
- Circulating information about the British Heart Foundation's online training 'RevivR' via village newsletters and email groups.
- Consider budgeting for defibrillator training in both villages - or potentially augmenting this to offering free 'first aid' courses as part of the parish's response to emergency planning.
- The parish council purchasing the correct paint to undertake any kiosk maintenance required.

Background

At the last meeting the parish council was advised that Community Heartbeat Trust would not be offering an Annual Maintenance Agreement for either of the parish defibrillators as the defibrillators are now out of warranty. The Annual Maintenance Agreement included public liability cover.

Update

The clerk took an action to discuss this with the parish council's insurer. The clerk has also spoken with the British Heart Foundation on options for maintenance, replacement parts and training on use.

- The parish council's insurer commented that warranties expire, that provided the defibrillators are fit for purpose, they will be covered by insurance. It is noted that the regular checks undertaken will flag up any errors with the defibrillators, and therefore if they are no longer fit for purpose.
- Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) has not responded to the clerk's request for further information on transfer of the asset, on ongoing maintenance or supply of consumable parts, on options for replacement, on purchase of suitable paint for maintenance of the telephone kiosks or on any local training providers.
- In reporting a return to the flicking light problem in the kiosk in Harbertonford, CHT has advised that the parish council ask a local electrician to take a look. If there is an issue with the supply itself, CHT agreed to support a query to BT (as the original owner of the supply).
- British Heart Foundation (BHF) cannot offer a service agreement for defibrillators it has not installed, but the parish council can purchase spare parts from its shop. The clerk has also been advised to purchase any consumables directly from the manufacturer.
- British Heart Foundation does not provide any in person CPR and defibrillator training. But does offer a free interactive online training resource called RevivR. In just 15 minutes, you can learn how to save a life and receive your very own CPR certificate. Anyone wanting to do this just needs a mobile phone or tablet and a cushion to practice on.
- The correct paint for K6 Telephone kiosks can be bought online at a cost of £14 for 500ml, plus VAT and delivery.
- If one or both of the parish defibrillators are no longer working and are out of service, the parish council would be eligible to apply for a BHF-funded community defibrillator, including a cabinet, replacement pads and batteries. BHF can support installation if the parish council is unable to install the cabinet itself, or with help from the community.
- Currently volunteers in Harbertonford update checks on two websites:, WEBNOS (CHT's website to manage defibrillator maintenance and governance) and The Circuit (operated by BHF, providing information on emergency defibrillator use to emergency services). There have been issues in managing updates to The Circuit in Harberton. BHF has offered help in resolving this.