

Community Services Committee

Title:	Defibrillators
Date:	4 February 2025
Contact Officer:	Cassie Pinnells, Community Services Manager

Purpose of the Report

1. To reconsider a request from the Staying Alive Group that Thame Town Council becomes the main point of contact to oversee the management and compliance of eight community defibrillators in Thame.

Background Information

2. The previous meeting of this committee requested that further information and potential costs and conditions of the defibrillators be gathered, to enable a decision to be considered regarding the request made by the Staying Alive Group.
3. The current administrator asked people at each building where a unit is placed to check it weekly. With a contract in place with a supplier to provide batteries (4–5-year life span) and pads (as required) free of charge, it is expected that this contract would transfer over to the Town Council or to individual defibrillator locations' guardians.
4. The supplier of the Staying Alive defibrillators has informed the current administrator, (who no longer wants to be involved with the project) that the maximum warranty with an extension for their defibrillators is 10 years due to the internal components. From the eight Staying Alive locations six are coming up to or just over the 10-years, with one next year and one the following.
5. The administrator has confirmed that all defibrillators are in good condition for their age and each location having a confirmed guardian responsible for undertaking the required weekly checks which includes the electricity connection to the cabinet at the following locations:
 - a. Thame Barns Centre
 - b. Scout HQ
 - c. Brothers Salon
 - d. Racquets Gym
 - e. The Falcon Pub
 - f. Masonic Lodge
 - g. Sprinz and Nash Vets
 - h. Barley Hill School - Denbigh Road

Resource Appraisal

6. Individual cost for a new defibrillator is approximately £1,300. It is hoped that a group deal could be negotiated with the current supplier for the six that require to be replaced.

7. The Staying Alive group have retained funds to cover any additional operational requirements. The funds held of £4,000 will be transferred to the council to help with future maintenance requirements.
8. In the past grant funding and sponsorship has been successful in raising funds to cover costs.

Proposal

9. That Thame Town Council consider taking on the responsibility of managing and monitoring the eight defibrillators, so they do not go out of commission.

Risk Assessment

10. A generic risk assessment has been provided that includes a weekly checking sheet. Staff time to pick up ordering supplies, responding to incidents, and the annual checking of the defibrillators.

Legal Powers:

- 1936 Public Health Act (S234) Power to provide life preservers.
- Localism Act 2011, ss. 1-8

Recommendation:

The Committee is asked:

- i) To reconsider the request from Staying Alive for Thame Town Council to become responsible for the Staying Alive Defibrillators Administration and Management.***