

Co-op defibrillator

Email from a parishioner:

A parishioner had need of the defibrillator that is housed at the CoOp on Friday 22 November. The Paramedics were asked if someone would be returning it and they advised that it would be reset and returned promptly.

24 hours later I checked with a staff member of the CoOp if it had been returned and was advised that due to the fact it was over 12 years old, it had been de-commissioned and there were no plans to replace it. I was advised to write to CoOp management - I believe the CoOp provide the power for it - which I'm prepared to do but believe it will have more impact coming from the Parish Council.

My understanding is that there is another defibrillator at the Village Hall but my main concerns are as follows:-

1. I believe we still require 2 defibrillators in the Village, one 'up this end' and the other where it is at the Village Hall, otherwise valuable time could be wasted
2. In the event that someone in the village requires a defibrillator, if the one at the village hall has been used in the previous 24-48 hours or so, it may not have been returned and therefore no defibrillator would be available between here and Blythburgh which is miles away!

Given that Walberswick is quite some distance from emergency services, has an elderly demographic and many visitors and swimmers during the year, I'm very concerned that we are in a very vulnerable situation here.

I would appreciate it if you would discuss with your fellow council members asap and try to resolve this precarious situation.