

Defibrillator

Goring-on-Thames now has access to an Intelligent Public Access Defibrillator (IPAD) which has been installed at the Village Hall thanks to a generous donation and the support of the Parish Council.

The unit has been chosen and installed with advice from our local ambulance service and they are aware of its location and potential for use in an emergency.

The defibrillator is designed to be used by the public or first responders – being designed specifically to be used by those with absolutely no training or knowledge of first aid and it is hoped that anyone would feel confident to just grab it and use it if needed.

The IPAD is situated in a large bright yellow box on the front of Goring Village Hall, High Street, towards the left of the building. Full instructions are printed on the box: Call the emergency services – quote the number on the box (AG24) and they will give the door code and get help on the way. Take the Defibrillator out and connect it to the patient as quickly as possible.

The Defibrillator has clear instructions – turn it on and it will talk to you giving detailed information on how to use it with both voice and on screen prompts.

It is designed so that a shock can only be given if the patient actually needs it – part of the self-checking process includes heart monitoring so it will not give a shock to anyone whose heart rhythm is not in fibrillation or not having a cardiac arrest.

There are two pads connected to the Defibrillator that need to be pulled out and stuck to the patient's bare chest – diagrams and voice prompts will help get it right.

It is there to be used in an emergency – and by ANYONE – not just first responders or the ambulance service. Speed is of the essence and the most important factor in saving lives in cardiac arrest.

Further information can be found in a training film produced by the suppliers of the equipment at:

<https://vimeo.com/98530930>

Colin Ratcliff

Clerk to Parish Council.