



### Community Defibrillators



Did you know there are 12 public access defibrillators (PADs) in and around the Aldwick area? We've recently done some research and were surprised! Hopefully you'll never have cause to use one but these devices can mean the difference between life or death.

The first thing to do is to call 999 if someone has collapsed or you suspect a heart issue: As well as sending an ambulance, the emergency services will be able to direct you to the nearest PAD if needed and talk you through its use and CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). The current list of registered PADs is available from our office and on our website and notice boards. If you're a member of a community organisation and would like to learn more about CPR, The Sussex Heart Charity has launched 'Rescue Ready', providing free AED/CPR awareness to community groups. The project aim is to empower local communities and share essential life saving skills. Details can be found from their website at (link) <https://www.sussexheartcharity.org/rescueready/>

### Meeting with the new MP

The Council is planning a meeting with Alison Griffiths, Member of Parliament for Bognor Regis & Littlehampton, about issues specific to our parish. We've got lots of ideas already, such as housing development, infrastructure, sewerage and flooding issues that impact Aldwick. We know that the MP already holds monthly surgeries for her constituents. However, we'd love to have residents' views to feed into topics to be discussed at our own meeting with her. If you've got something to say, get in touch with us, preferably by email or letter and we'll try to add it to our list!



### Reporting Crime/ASB



Aldwick is generally a very safe and low crime area, but now and then we get reports from residents and businesses about crime or suspicious or antisocial behaviour affecting the community. It's very useful for the Council to be aware of these, and where possible we feed back to Sussex Police or to the Sussex Police & Crime

Commissioner through various meetings. It's important though that public do also report any concerns directly to the police too – either by calling 101 (or 999 in an emergency) or online from their website. Anonymous reports can be made too to Crimestoppers at their website (link) <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/> or by telephoning 0800 555 111. It can seem frustrating if no apparent action results, but we are regularly assured that reporting helps the police build up a better picture of where to direct resources.

**New Year, new challenge!** Have you ever wondered what a parish council does, or how you might help shape decisions taken for your community? **What do Parish Councils do?** Councillors lead on community services such as allotments, tree planting, footpaths, public seating and litter bins. Our Council distributes discretionary grants for local organisations, organises a summer play scheme and is a consultee of Arun District Council on local planning applications. **How much time is needed?** On average, it's been gauged that around three hours a week is needed for council work. This often includes attending meetings, engaging with residents and speaking to local groups and bodies on behalf of the council. **Interested?** Contact Heather at the parish office to find out more about being co-opted on to the Council.

**Council Meeting dates:** **Planning Committee** - Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm, Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm



('short' meeting), Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm ('short' meeting). The 'short' meetings precede Full Council meetings. Full Council meetings will therefore start at approximately 7.15pm at the earliest. **Full Council** - Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Public are always welcome to attend meetings and

can ask questions on agenda items during a short adjournment item. Agendas are published on our website / notice boards around a week in advance.