

Should Yscir Community Council investigate the feasibility of having community defibrillators in Yscir?

Why Have an Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Following a Cardiac Arrest(heart attack) the chance of survival decreases by 23% per minute. It is therefore very important medical treatment starts as soon as possible. The UK Resuscitation Council suggests an AED should be available wherever medical treatment is more than 5 minutes away.

See <http://www.communityheartbeat.org.uk> for further information

Issues around having an AED

- 1) Cost - around £2000 including an external cabinet;
could seek sponsorship/ fund raising/ sell shares/ raise precept
- 2) Location - need to have a building to put it on that has an electricity supply to the defibrillator casing.
Cradoc Golf Club? other suitable buildings or walls?
- 3) Training - apparently they are very simple to use and require little or no training:-
the AED unit issues its own instructions.
Involve local ambulance service in choice of AED and how to use/publicise
- 4) Publicity - in the event of an emergency people need to know where the AED is and how to access it
- 5) Consultation with Community
Item in newsletter?

Conclusion

Whilst the benefits are significant, the practicalities are also considerable. Given the relative closeness to Brecon, it may not be worth pursuing. If the Council does think this is worth following up, the first step might be to invite the Community Heartbeat Trust and/or the Ambulance Service to the next meeting to find out more about it.