Weston Under Redcastle Parish Council
Policy for the Use and Maintenance of the AED

1. **Background**

Weston under Redcastle Parish Council is responsible for one defibrillator for use within the Parish of Weston under Redcastle. The appliance was generously provided by the The Henry Angell-James Memorial Trust.

There are circumstances where the heart goes 'out of sync'. Being a four chambered muscular pump, it gets an electrical signal which contracts the muscles in order. Fibrillation occurs when the muscles are in a spasm which affects the flow of blood. Defibrillators give a shock to the heart in order to stop the spasms. Sometimes the heart has stopped and in this condition the machine will not allow a shock as the heart is not in spasm. When stopped the heart needs cardiac massage (CPR).

2. **Maintenance**

The unit self- tests daily, weekly and monthly.

State LED

blinking green: the i-PAD is in standby mode and ready for a rescue operation

solid green: the i-PAD is in rescue mode.

blinking red: the i-PAD detected a system error or low battery level during a self-test.

solid blue: the i-PAD is conducting a self-test.

solid white: the i-PAD is in administration mode. It announces last use information and it senses and waits for a possible data transfer to a personal computer.

Alongside the automatic function, fortnightly visual check should be made to ensure the LED indicators are showing the correct readings. The batteries will require a check after four years or repeated use. The electrode pad condition should be checked every 3 months to ensure the use by date is not exceeded.

3. **Records**

A log of fortnightly, and quarterly checks should be maintained and kept by the designated person. There should also be diary reminders for pads and battery replacement.

If used, a record of any incident can be logged with the designated person. The Ambulance service can assist with this data if required. This will provide statistics for both the Parish Council. Data is also recorded using a national database called 'The

Circuit'. The unit should be wiped down and replenished after use. If after use, spares are not available to replenish the unit, it should be made 'out of service' whilst replacements are sourced.

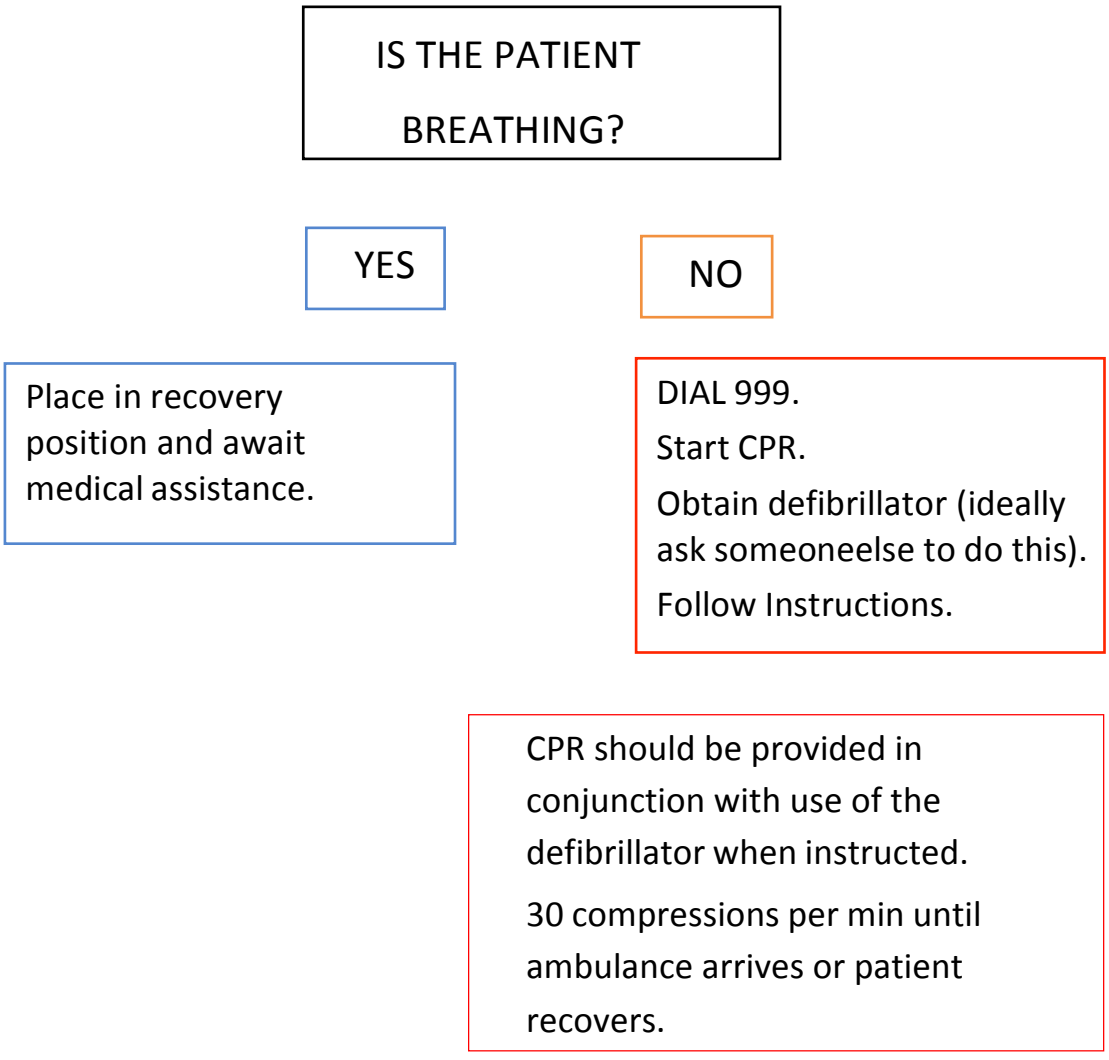
4. Insurance

The Defibrillator is covered under Parish Council Insurance for damage and theft. The Parish is accountable for ongoing maintenance and regular, recorded checks of the operation of all equipment, in line with best practice guidance from the manufacturer and the detail herein.

5. Operation

First dial 999. Control will advise of the closest defibrillator location and provide and a code. Cabinets should be clearly marked with a unit/location number that can be supplied to the Emergency Services Operator if the caller is already at the location.

CPR should be conducted form the moment the patient stops breathing and should work in conjunction with the defibrillator. The unit is semi-automatic and will tell the operator what and when to do (or not to do) resuscitation techniques. It will take electronic readings from the heart and decide whether a shock is appropriate, at which point CPR should be paused. Ideally, CPR will continue in conjunction with use of the defibrillator until the ambulance arrives. For every minute CPR is not carried out, chances of survival decrease by 10%.



6. West Midlands Ambulance Service - 'The Circuit'

Registering any Parish owned defibrillators on 'The Circuit' will help improve survival rates from cardiac arrest, through sharing their location. The Circuit is a national database of defibrillators with a self-service portal for managing defibrillator details and data. The portal enables those responsible for the units, to manage data for each defibrillator including regular service checks and deployment. It also enables defibrillators to be temporarily removed from service and to help source volunteer 'guardians' to manage checks temporarily to cover holidays or restricted access to defibrillators due to works etc. Removing a defibrillator from service will make it unavailable to the ambulance service when a 999 call is received.

Link: www.thecircuit.uk

7. Best Practice Guidance

The defibrillator is stored within an external cabinet, designed to protect the it during cold, wet weather. Each cabinet contains a heater. The heater should be checked regularly to ensure that it is in working order. A bracket is provided inside the cabinets for defibrillators to be hung, preventing them from sitting directly on top of the heater.

8. Service

Refer to Section 12 for troubleshooting advice.

For faults, immediate service support should be sought and the defibrillators taken 'out of service' via The Circuit database. Volunteers should be alerted and where possible, public notified via social media, noticeboards and Parish website.

9. Deployment

If the defibrillator is used by the ambulance service, you will receive an email informing you that your defibrillator has been used and taken out of service on The Circuit. You will need to check your defibrillator, put back into position and perform a status check on The Circuit to make it Emergency Ready. If you're unable to locate your defibrillator, or have a query regarding your defibrillator being deployed, you will be required to contact your local Ambulance Service for assistance.

Defibrillators should be marked clearly with a unit number, name of the Parish and contact number. In the event that it is deployed, it will be removed from site by the ambulance service, and this is therefore essential for tracking purposes.

Following deployment, checks need to take place to ensure that the defibrillator has been replaced properly and that the battery is working, the pads are in date and the deposable items are present. The defibrillator should also be cleaned in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

In general terms, this should include the following steps;

- Wash hands
- Apply gloves (if available

- Inspect defibrillator for any damage, dirt or contamination
- Remove defibrillator from protective case (if not done so already), do not remove battery.

- Clean all outside surfaces with a disinfectant wipe, take care not to allow fluid to access ports and battery connections
- Remove gloves and wash hands
- Inspect/test unit for readiness and put back in protective case and then return to cabinet

11. Defibrillator Details

UNIT	Single in village
BRAND	CU Medical Systems /iPAD
MODEL	NF1200
ACCESS TYPE	Public
ACCESS HOURS	24x7x365
LOCATION ADDRESS	Guinea Lane Weston under Redcastle Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 5XD
SITUATED	Front facing external wall of WuR village hall by entrance
LOCATION NUMBER:	
SERIAL NUMBER	
CODE	C159X
SUPPLIER	Angell-James Memorial Trust
UNIT MANUFACTURE DATE	
BATTERY MANUFACTURE DATE	01/2021
PAD USE BY DATE	01/2024
PAEDIATRIC PADS	No
CABINET LOCKED	External case with heater
SHAVING KIT	Yes