

## Beckford Parish Council Newsletter September 2022.

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### Trees.

Following a large tree falling across the road in Beckford it would seem timely to remind landowners that they have a duty of care to passers by. It is not law but it is strongly advised that landowners have trees regularly checked for disease so that risks from damage to people, animals and property are reduced to a low level. Advised inspection interval is two to three years.

### Winter Resilience.

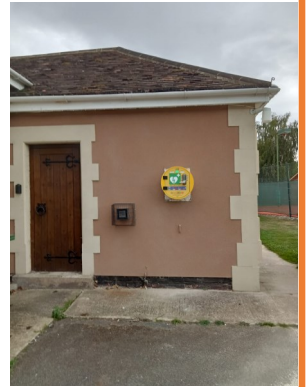
As we head into autumn and winter the Parish Council would like to remind all residents across the communities to ensure their winter resilience is up to scratch. You may wish to review your flood and snow defences, gutters and overflows. It may also be sensible to check outdoor areas are wind resistant with garden furniture secure and tall trees possibly topped or pruned. Let us know if salt bins need filling.



These pictures show some examples of different community defibrillators you may see in circulation.

1) On the 1st September 2022 our fourth community defibrillator was installed in Beckford kiosk. Have you seen it?

2) Have you ever wondered if they are ever used?



Do you know how to access the defibrillators?

All the defibrillators in Beckford and Grafton are registered with South West Ambulance Service and with West Midlands Ambulance Service. When you recognize that you have an emergency call 999 immediately and they will give you the access code if you have someone free to get it.

A defibrillator only works if good quality cardio pulmonary resuscitation is administered. The cabinet at Beckford Community Village Hall was showing signs of rust and was looking shabby so, although the defibrillator was still functional, the cabinet had to be replaced. This happened on 1st September.

The Parish Council is fortunate in being able to secure funding for suitable paint and the two kiosks will be painted as



needed. Hopefully you will have noticed the smart coat of paint and lovely gold crown recently refurbished.

You can request training from councillor Mantle



### Councillor Vacancy.

With the resignation of Councillor Revell, following his move from Beckford, there are now three vacancies for councillors in Beckford and Grafton. Please consider whether you would like to take part in council business and represent your neighbours on the council. If you are interested please contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance; his email is overleaf.

## **A46, Sewage Discharge, and Flood Defences at Little Beckford**

Cllr Nicholds reported that Glos CCs proposed public consultation (due last month) has been postponed until late 2023 at the earliest. Parishioners interested in learning more about this topic are referred to information on <https://taagroup.co.uk> and various County and Parish council websites easily found by searching online for "A46 Partnership". Cllr Nicholds reminded the meeting that the Midlands Connect A46 Corridor Study Phase 2 Final Report references a Beckford Bypass in its 2040-2045 timeline of need, some 20 years hence.

Cllr Nicholds reported that Severn Trent had replied on 30 August to our Environmental Information Request seeking data on discharges of untreated sewage made into the Carrant Brook from Beckford Sewage Works. The main disclosures were: (a) data is available for 2020 and 2021 only because monitoring devices were only installed in 2020; (b) most of the overflow is rainwater; (c) overflows are designed to protect homes from flooding; (d) there were 107 discharges in 2020 and 88 in 2021; (e) the Works service an estimated 375 properties; (f) the Works operate in a manner compliant with Severn Trent's permit from the Environment Agency. Severn Trent refused to respond to our requests for details of annual maintenance spend on the Works over the last 3 years, response times when discharge alarms were activated and the conclusions of Severn Trent's internal review following its £1.5m fine in Dec-21 for illegal discharges at various sewage plants in Worcestershire. Council noted that the discharges equated to 1 every 3 days in 2020 and 1 every 4 days in 2021. It was resolved to notify Parishioners of these details both via these minutes and the Council's newsletter. Councilor Nicholds arranged for some drainage work to be carried out in Gilders gateway which, we hope, will help the flooding situation there.

### **LITTER.**

Whilst walking and cycling I cannot help noticing the amount of litter discarded. Please make an effort to take your litter home or to bin it. Education of our children and young people is wasted if we do not set a good example. If you see litter please pick it up and bin it. We live a long way from the sea but our litter will eventually pollute soil, streams, rivers and the sea with chemicals, plastic particles, elastic and constrictive materials that do not break down.

### **Village Gates**

The Parish Council is planning to spend some of our money, your money, on village gates in an effort to bring road speed down to a safer level. We have been unable to get reduce speed signs through various highways agencies so have decided to go ahead with the village gates to raise awareness that motorists are driving through the middle of a village. Hopefully you will see some benefit.

### **Grants.**

Grants available from various sources.

- Businesses may apply for a small Rate Relief Grant and can obtain more information from Wychavon District Council <https://www.wychavon.gov.uk/business/business-rates/business-rates-reliefs> The business grant aims to help new and established businesses by helping out with rate relief.
- Individuals can apply for a Community Support Grant from the Parish Council. Individuals can apply for grants to support community based projects. For further information see: <https://beckford-parish-council.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Beckford-Grant-Aid-Policy.pdf>.

Your councilors are: Martin Spice (Chairman), Lynette Mantle (Vice chair), Diane Colvin, Anne Worrall and David Nicholds.

The clerk is Dave Roscoe (email: [clerk@beckford-parish-council.org.uk](mailto:clerk@beckford-parish-council.org.uk)) preferred method of contact.