Severn Stoke and Croome D'Abitot Parish Council

During times when we seem to be continually bombarded with sad or bad news it is really nice to be able to give out some good vibrations for a change. Thanks to the co-operation and generosity of Andy, the landlord at the Rose and Crown in Severn Stoke, together with resident donations and additional funds from County Councillor Martin Allen and Severn Stoke and Croome d'Abitot Parish Council, it has been possible to purchase a defibrillator for community use. The unit will be located externally at the Rose and Crown in a secure cabinet and will be available for emergency use whenever the need arises. Together with the defibrillator located on the National Trust workshop in High Green, we now have two emergency units for public use in our parish.

Whilst defibrillators are able to 'talk' users through the procedures of use, we are aware that there is some demand by residents for guidance and training on how to use the machines. To help with this we are exploring options for providing some basic training sessions to help potential users. We are at an early stage with this and to give the council an idea of the scale of need please let us know, via the Parish Clerk, if you'd be interested in attending a session.

We have now received a new waste bin to replace the broken one in the layby on the A38 at Clifton. Sadly, there is a continual problem of littering at this location, likely exacerbated by overnight stopping by HGVs. Hopefully, the replacement rubbish bin will help to reduce this problem. The replacement bus shelter glass for Severn Stoke is on order and will be sorted soon.

All councils are now required to consider the impact of planning and other decisions on bio-diversity within their areas of responsibility. Over the next year we will be looking to explore with local landowners, tenants and the wider community what might be done to develop a local strategy to conserve and improve bio-diversity across our parish. Thank you once again to all the residents that have helped us to plant the many daffodil bulbs across the parish, with a special call out to those of you living in Kinnersley - Hannah at Go for Granite, Bev and John Ingram, Carol and Trevor Tolley, John and Jenny Worthington and Michael Hennigan. We look forward to seeing the result of your hard work this coming Spring! Thank you once again to those that sponsored the bulbs in the first place, including district councillors and residents at Kinnersley.

Residents have raised concerns about the state of public rights of way across the parish. The parish council will approach land owners where appropriate. As well as alerting parish councillors, all issues in this regard should be reported to the County Council please: <u>https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-</u> <u>services/environment/countryside-and-leisure/public-rights-way</u> The website loads a map that lets you select the correct route.

Other projects ongoing. The parish council is continuing to work with businesses, residents and visitors with regard to on-road parking at various locations across the parish. St Denys' has been in touch about a wildflower meadow proposal by the Environment Agency to help meet planning conditions for the Flood Alleviation Scheme. Residents have asked the parish council to follow up with the District Council on a number of enforcement issues, ranging from fertiliser material stored close to homes, checking the planning status on various sites and outstanding archaeological surveys. We will also be taking advice from the District Councillors regarding a consultation on the Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule. The levy is a charge which can be set on new development. It is an important tool to use to help deliver the infrastructure supporting development.

Contact the parish clerk if you would like to receive agendas or minutes by email. **NEXT MEETING:** Wed 20th March 2024, 7.30pm - Annual Parish Meeting of Residents with the usual Parish Council meeting afterwards – Please check for the venue closer to the day Lisa Stevens, Parish Council Clerk, T: 07950256363, E: <u>severnstokeandcda@gmail.com</u> Your councillors are Laurence Freeman (Chair), Susan Faulkner (Deputy), Raymond Williams, Pat Preston, Royston Garrard, Lee Russell, Nicola Sumner & Richard Hill. We have 4 vacancies – come join us! No matter what your background and availability etc – the role of parish councillor is a flexible one in many respects. A warm welcome awaits. We meet six times a year on average.