

Faringdon PAD Committee Report

A relatively quiet year since my report of last May and so just to outline the activities undertaken either by, or on behalf of, the PAD Committee as follows:

On 8th June 2024 - Faringdon PAD Committee, supporting the committee of Faringdon Branch British Heart Foundation with community Defibrillator Awareness and Safety Day at Faringdon Market Square. A successful day when we were available to engage with the public, raising community awareness around defibrillators, CPR, the use of Defibrillators and general information concerning heart health.

The day was organised with the support of Oxon Fire & Rescue service who were in attendance to extend the message to members of the local community on matters of home and community safety and the role of OFR in supporting this. The Faringdon Fire Pump and its crew were in attendance to be able to provide information and the experience of seeing first hand, some of the equipment carried, in the work of dealing with fire and rescue in emergency incidents.

The day also consisted of an AGM for the Faringdon PAD Committee and for the opportunity of presenting the public report on the committee activities and aims, as had previously been presented to FTC in May. The standing committee of 4 members were re-elected on this occasion. The committee has the addition of two FTC members who provide oversight of its role within and on behalf of the Faringdon community.

The committee, as at that time is still looking to recruit a secretary and at this time is looking to recruit a suitable person with the time, along with some ideas and skills associated with the role of fundraiser.

The committee has supported FTC with advice and information concerning its intention of utilising the old red phone box at the Canada Lane location. While considerations had been made towards the access to a power supply and the potential for the use of solar power, or no power, with the implementation of thermal insulation, this project has not been able to progress at this time and following funding issues.

The committee in the course of the year have supported defibrillator and CPR awareness activities at two location in Faringdon where there has been the installation of units at the United Church (The church on the Roundabout) Where also funds were raised on the day sufficient to pay for the unit and its installation.

The second occasion was at the Faringdon Bowls Club, where awareness sessions followed the recent installation of a PAD at the club site that had been sponsored by the Faringdon Advertiser, and where funds were raised separately for the South Central Ambulance Charity on the evening of the training session.

The PAD Committee is currently considering the implications of changes to its banking arrangements and following notification that Lloyds bank will be moving the funds from

its account across from a Community Account to a Business account in line with the banks recent policy and financial decisions for such funds.

It is the intention of the committee to fully consider the implications of the change in banking arrangements and to determine a decision that will be suitable and appropriate for the administration of its funds.

Information concerning the current status of funds available to the committee may be obtained on request and to be available as appropriate.

The general aims and along with the business of the committee, has been maintained over the past 12 months in supporting the monitoring and maintenance of those units for which its members act as Guardians. Advising and supporting individuals and community organisations locally, on the sourcing and provision of further defibrillators to be placed within our community, and to provide organised sessions for the public in learning how to use them in the event of an out of hospital cardiac arrest.

The committee remains available to consider and to arrange with groups in the community of Faringdon or the District, on events and appropriate activities that will raise awareness towards the importance of the installation of defibrillators and to educate towards their use, in saving lives in our communities.

Malcolm Gee
Chair - Faringdon PAD Committee -
28th April 2025