

Community First Responders (CFR)

Update for Westfield Parish Council meeting 6th February 2019

Last month we received the good news that South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAmb) have opened the recruitment window once again for Community First Responders in Westfield. Council set aside £1800 in reserves a few years ago to cover the cost of training a responder for Westfield. The role is a very challenging but rewarding one, responding to emergency calls in conjunction with SECAmb as well as raising funds for the scheme and raising awareness of CPR and Public Access Defibrillators.

SEACamb had an extraordinary level of interest from the Westfield community for this role and invited those interested to a CFR information evening in January. Following this, they have 4 people who are now moving towards the formal application stage and if successful it is expected that at least one will have completed their training by the summer.

The £1800 set aside in reserves will be sufficient to train and provide a kit for one CFR. SEACamb have enquired if the Parish Council would be willing to fund additional training costs. With approximately £2500 and with their existing reserve funds, plus a spare kit that they have ready to go they should be able to kit all 4 of the applicants. I have provided them with a grant application form and asked them to complete in order to formally request a grant.

Kate Darbyshire, Clerk & RFO