

EAST DEAN RESPONDERS

(Previously named: Downland Heartstart)

For East Dean, Friston, Birling Gap & Crowlink Registered Charity No. 113744

Trustees' Annual Report for the year to 31 March 2016

During the last 12 months our Community First Responders (CFRs) have been busier than usual and continued to work as many hours as they were able. This year they were called out 68 times compared with 45 times last year. However with only five of them it was impossible to provide sufficient cover every day let alone 24/7. Nevertheless these are the performance figures for the year to 31st March 2016. With Village only response times averaging of just over 4 ½ minutes our CFRs should be proud of what they have achieved.

2015-16 Shouts	
8	Total shouts for 2015-16
12	Stood Down once mobile
46	Ambulance/Paramedic arrived before CFR
10	CFR arrived at same time as Ambulance/Paramedic

2015-16 Shout Response Times	
6m8s	Avg. Response Time (to patient)
8m12s	Avg. Before Ambulance

2015-16 Village Only Shout Response Times	
4m31s	Avg. Response Time (to patient)
6m41s	Avg. Before Ambulance

2015-16 Call Locations		Call Locations since 2012
53	Village	182
5	Beachy Head	12
0	Jevington	7
4	Seaford	15
6	Eastbourne	9

Pie charts illustrating call locations are given at the end of this report.

We are grateful to our member Simon Hunt for providing these details.

In November 2015 the Trustees decided to relaunch Downland Heartstart, rename it 'East Dean Responders' and raise our profile by organising more activities such as defibrillator demonstrations. It was hoped that this would recruit new Community First Responders (CFRs). It would also involve members and could result in them helping with fund raising and other activities. Although we have sufficient funds for immediate use there is likely to be significant future expenditure – equipping new CFRs costs £2,500 each; replacing obsolete defibrillators @ £1,000; and other equipment updates. Since our relaunch three public defibrillator demonstrations have been held. This has resulted in two people wanting to train as CFRs. This is most encouraging.

In March this year Trustees agreed to a programme of events which by raising our profile could result in more people coming forward to train as CFRs. We had hoped that our members would help with some of these activities and in January 2016 we sent them a questionnaire to assess to what extent they wished to be involved. We have 47 members but have only received 5 responses. Two offered to help in one way or another but three said that they were too old or unfit. Six of our members do not have email and were given hard copies of the questionnaire with a s.a.e. All but one has replied. Only one reply has come from the 41 who were sent the questionnaire by email.

In 2011 we decided to purchase two AEDs (automatic electronic defibrillators) for public use to be located in the village on each side of the A259. These had to be placed indoors because they are damaged by low temperatures and no suitable heated cabinets were available at that time. The logical places were therefore, in the Barn Stores and in the Village Hall. We decided that for insurance purposes the AED would be gifted to the Village Hall Trust although we would continue to maintain it and demonstrate it. We continue to own the one in the Barn Stores. It is not insured. Heated cabinets are now available and the ambulance service is recommending that all public AEDs be available for use 24/7. Consequently the Village Hall Trust has agreed that it be moved to an outside wall of the hall and at the same time have gifted it back to East Dean Responders. The Trust has also kindly donated £250 to assist with the cost of buying an outside cabinet. The AED was moved to a very visible heated outside cabinet on 4th April. The cabinet is alarmed but unlocked.

The Parish Council also gave us £333.40 this being the unspent balance which the Parish received from Wealden District Council’s Community Dividend. One or two members have also made generous donations.

In November 2015 our existing CFRs were invited to become Trustees and all accepted. They were appointed in accordance with the Constitution which allows for an infinite number. Flora Richards, as Team Leader, was already a trustee. The result of this is that there are now 10 trustees, five of whom are CFRs and two of whom used to be. This will provide a more appropriate balance of experience within our trustees.

