

Article in Worcester News 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016

## Former telephone phone box will now be saving lives in Holt



A NEW lease of life has been given to our out of service telephone box which now contains life-saving equipment. Holt Parish Council took control of the decommissioned BT telephone box, near the bus stop on the A443, and decided to fundraise to turn it into a defibrillator unit.

With the help of Dave Harford, **Community First Responder Co-ordinator**, and people living in the village, the unit is now up and running.

A lick of green paint has replaced the former iconic red hue and the signs which once read 'telephone' have been changed to read 'Defibrillator'.

Parish councillor Pete Mobbs thanked Mr Dave Harford for helping them to secure the defibrillator supplied by [West Midlands Ambulance Service](#); and the supporters in the village.

He said: "When BT turned around and said they wanted to stop the use of the phone box we were left with a phone box that didn't achieve anything or do anything.

"We really believed a defibrillator was worthwhile - it is one of those things you never hope to have to use but it will always be there if there is an emergency."

Twenty one people living in Holt have been taught CPR and how to use the unit during a session run by Mr Harford and his colleague Tim Hodges.

Early defibrillation is key to survival when someone is in cardiac arrest. They are very easy to use; you just follow the voice instructions.

If anyone would like to learn more please contact Pete Mobbs who will try to organise training and getting you involved with our Defibrillator project.