## Dovecotes TMO Newsletter Autum 2019

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## **News from The Chair**

September is a busy time at Dovecotes, we hold our Annual General Meeting, elect executive positions on the board and consider new members. I was thrilled to discover there were 6 nominee's standing for election to our management board. Being a board member of a community led organisation is a challenging and frustrating role but also personally and professionally rewarding.

## 2019 AGM Results

This years AGM was held at the Dovecotes Primary School on Tuesday 11th September 2019. A total of 62 members attended our meeting joined by Local Councillors and representatives from the City of Wolverhampton Council.

At Dovecotes we operate a three yearly rotation of board members, this helps to reduce entrenchment, encourage new leadership, and develop strong corporate governance strategies. Three existing board members stood down, all were nominated for the re-election joined by an additional three nominees. A vote was held for the 3 tenant vacancies of the management board. The nominees duly elected by majority preferential vote were;

- 1. Ryan Pitt-Woodcock
- 2. Rebecca Dutton
- 3. Ann Webb

Following our AGM substantive board members met and elected Ann Webb as Secretary and Sarah Harrison as Treasurer. Andrew Slater, Liz Kerr, Councillor Sue Roberts MBE and Paul Lewis were all elected as co-opted members of the board (co-opted members will hold their position for 1 year only).

I join the board and staff in thanking all those who attended our AGM. We look forward to a prosperous year ahead.

Joan Gurtis



## **Dovecotes TMO Install Community Defibrillator**

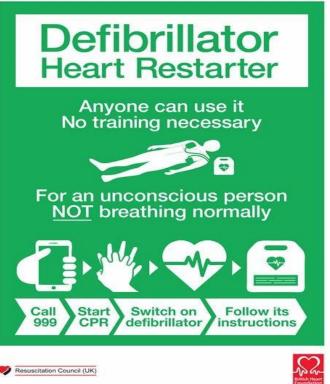
Did you know that defibrillation within 3-5 minutes of collapse can produce survival rates as high as 50-70%?

To help someone who is in cardiac arrest effectively, a defibrillator needs to be found as quickly as possible. For every minute it takes for the defibrillator to reach someone and deliver a shock, their chances of survival reduce by up to 10%.

This year we commissioned the purchase and installation of a community defibrillator that is positioned on the external front entrance of the building. This has been registered with the emergency services, if a defibrillator is needed the 999 call handler will disclose the location and code to the box.

You don't need to be trained to use a defibrillator – anyone can use it. There are clear instructions on how to attach the defibrillator pads. It then assesses the heart rhythm and will only instruct you to deliver a shock if it's needed. You cannot deliver a shock accidentally, the defibrillator will only allow you to shock if it is needed.





## **Police Surgery**

### **Dovecotes TMO Housing Office,** Ryefield, Pendeford, Wolverhampton, WV8 1UD

Between 10 am - 12 noon on:

#### Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019 Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019 Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019

We're conducting these police surgeries after a request by the Dovecotes TMO board members to give you an opportunity to speak to local officers about any community concerns.

To report a crime, if it's not 999, search WMP Online www.west-midlands.police.uk where you can get tailored advice, live chat to an advisor (8am-midnight, Mon-Sun), report non-emergency crime online or track your case. Alternatively contact us on 101.

If you have information that may assist the police you can contact CrimeStoppers anonymously via www.crimestoppers-uk.org or by calling 0800 555 111.



Monday - Thursday 9.30 - 14:00

**Citizens Advice** 

**Drop In Session** 

Citizens Advice Wolverhampton provides free,

impartial, independent and confidental advice

Dovecotes TMO, Housing Office, Ryefield, Pendeford, Wolverhampton WV8 1UD. Drop in Sessions 9.30 -

and guidance.

Friday 27th September

Friday 29th November

Friday 31st January\*

WV2 4AD

NO DECEMBER SESSION

Advice is also available via

Citizens Advice Wolverhampton

26 Snow Hill, Wolverhampton



citizens Wolverhampton advice

\*sessions will be available with a

Coffee Morning

**Dovecotes TMO** 

Come and join members of the board for a coffee and a chat Wednesday's between 10.00-12.00

> 13th October 2019 27th October 2019 6th November 2019 27th November 2019 11th December 2019 8th January 2020

## Keeping Warm This Winter

Around 4 million UK households are in fuel poverty, unable to afford to live in a warm, dry home. National Energy Action is the national charity working to end fuel poverty in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

A household is in fuel poverty if;

\* the required fuel costs are above average (national median level)

\* if the cost of energy means the household is left with a residual income below the official poverty line

If you think you are experiencing fuel poverty, then you may be entitled to one of the following services:

**Warm Home Discount** – if you qualify and your supplier is part of the scheme, then a warm home discount is worth £140.00 per year. It is either credited to your electricity account or supplied as top up vouchers. For enquires contact the WHD Team Helpline on 0800 731 0214.

**Winter Fuel Payment** – This is an automatic annual payment of £100 - £300 between November and December to help older people with the cost of keeping warm in winter. To find out if you qualify contact the Winter Fuel Payment Helpline on 0800 731 0160

**Cold Weather Payment** – CWP payments are automatic for eligible households on selected means-tested benefits in areas where exceptionally cold weather is forecast or has occurred. Contact your local Jobcentre Plus Office, Pensions Centre or call the Universal Credit Helpline on 0800 328 5644 to see if you qualify.

**Priority Services Register** – Priority Services Register (PSR) is a free service provided by energy suppliers if you are of a pensionable age, are disabled, chronically sick or have a long-term medical condition, have hearing, communication needs or a visual impairment. If you are dependent on an electricity supply for medical equipment, then you should register for the PSR services. Contact your energy supplier to find out more and to be added onto the register.

**Get advice on managing energy bills** – if your having difficulty paying for your energy or have energy debt, contact your supplier in the first instance. They may be able to help support you in switching to a better deal, access discounts such as the Warm Home Discount or receive support from charitable or other trusts to help with energy debts.

**Trust Funds** – Some energy suppliers provide time limited funds which may help individuals to reduce their energy debts, access appliances or make boiler repairs etc. All trust funds have different eligibility criteria and services. Most trusts have online application forms.

You can find out more by visiting www.nea.org.uk/advice/steps-affordable-warmth-videos/ -NEA's energy advice, steps to afford warmth OR pop into Dovecotes TMO Housing Office to collect an information booklet.



# **Reporting**Anti-Social Behaviour

The Wolverhampton Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Team are currently working in partnership with Dovecotes TMO to address complaints about Anti-Social Behaviour.

> Anti-social behaviour is a form of behaviour which has a negative impact on your quality of life. It could be noisy neighbours, vandalism or littering to persistent disorderly behaviour and drug-dealing.

> We know that anti-social behaviour can cause a great deal of distress. That's why we're committed to working with you to investigate and resolve the cases which are reported to us.

You can report ASB online at

www.wolverhamptonhomes.org.uk/asb

or by phone on <u>01902 551188</u>

You can report crime at any time to the police by ringing 101.

In the event of an emergency always ring 999.

We work closely with the police and other partner agencies to keep you safe.



If you are experiencing behaviour which is of concern to you, we would like to hear from you.

Behaviour may include, but is not limited to:

- Criminal behaviour
- Racist or homophobic behaviour and religious hatred
- Threatening or intimidating behaviour
- Gang membership
- Domestic violence
- Playing loud music
- Excessive noise
- Damage to property
- Uncontrolled pets
- Dumping rubbish

We can't be around all the time, so our greatest asset in battling behaviour is you. If you see or hear anything suspicious, suspect criminal activity or nuisance behaviour might be taking place, please tell us about it so we can help you.



# Save The Date For Santa

Santa will be coming to Dovecotes on Thursday 12th December 2019

Tickets Available From Reception Week Commencing 11th November 2019

## NEW ESTATE FORUM

## **Dovecotes TMO Estate Forum Tuesday 12th November 2019**

**Main Hall Dovecotes Primary School** 

#### 5.00 - 6.00pm Drop in Session

Staff will be available to deal with personal enquiries

#### 6.00 - 7.00pm Public Meeting

Come and speak to us about what is important to you and how we can work together to improve the dovecotes estate. Agenda and meeting information will be available on our facebook page



Dovecotes Tenant Management Organisation 01902 552 780 Dovecotes.TMO@wolverhampton.gov.uk Opening Hours Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9.00-4.00pm

(closed between 1.00-2.00 for lunch)