261201 – Item 14 - Community First Aid Awareness Training

Purpose

To consider funding a community first aid awareness session for residents.

Background

At its November 2026 meeting, the Council resolved:

"To support providing community first aid, paid for by a tailored service, but prior to booking Cllrs Hampton and Elliott to talk to local businesses to gauge their interest in sponsoring the event. Clerk to liaise with Cllrs Hampton and Elliott."

Joe Rice First Aid Training has confirmed that it can deliver a tailored 2-hour community first aid awareness session for local residents at a cost of £180 plus VAT.

The session would provide practical first aid awareness training and support the Council's objective of promoting community resilience. Given Moretonhampstead's rural location, emergency response times can be longer than in urban areas. Equipping residents with basic first aid knowledge and the confidence to act in an emergency could help provide immediate assistance before professional medical help arrives.

Financial Implications

The cost of the session is £180 plus VAT and room hire.

Whilst no specific budget provision was made when the budget was set, the Council's grass-cutting expenditure during 2026 has been lower than anticipated due to the exceptionally dry summer. As a result, there is sufficient underspend within existing budgets to fund the session.

Recommendation

That the Council:

1. Notes the enquiries undertaken regarding sponsorship opportunities;
2. Agrees to fund a 2-hour community first aid awareness session delivered by Joe Rice First Aid Training at a cost of £180 plus VAT (and room hire); and
3. Authorises the Clerk to make the necessary booking arrangements.