



BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL

LOCAL WINTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

SALT SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT

Salt bins are situated at the following locations:

- Northern underpass 2, one each side of A1
- Southern underpass 2, one each side of A1
- Taylors Lane junction with Hardwick Lane
- High Street by the entrance to the Towers
- Mayfield by the Doctors' surgery
- Church Street by Burberry homes
- Village Hall car park
- Hunts End on the green by the noticeboard
- Hunts End on the footway to Burberry Road
- Lucks Lane opposite Springfield Close
- Cranfield Way in the residents' parking area

These bins are checked in the Autumn of each year and filled with salt and is for use on the public highway only. Members of the public should contact the Parish Council if salt bins need refilling

ROLE OF THE PRINCIPAL AUTHORITY – CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Further information on the role of the principal authority can be found at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

LEGAL ADVICE

People have been hesitant to clear snow because of fears of litigation if someone should slip on the treated area. The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Occupiers' Liability Act 1984 place responsibility on the employer to maintain access to premises in a safe condition. Although an employer can be held liable for 'failing to act reasonably' to prevent accidents pedestrians also have a responsibility to take care.

The Ministry of Justice issued a letter during the first half of 2010 which stated;

"The prospects of a person who volunteers to clear snow from a pavement being successfully sued for damages by a person who subsequently slips on the cleared area and is injured are very small"

The following statement was taken from direct.gov, the official UK government website on 4th November 2010 and summarised at the Annex for public awareness:

The snow code – tips on clearing snow and ice from pavements or public spaces

Don't be put off clearing paths because you're afraid someone will get injured. Remember, people walking on snow and ice have a responsibility to be careful themselves.



Follow the advice below to make sure you clear the pathway safely and effectively. And don't believe the myths - it's unlikely you'll be sued or held legally responsible for any injuries if you have cleared the path carefully.

Clear the snow and ice early in the day

It's easier to move fresh, loose snow rather than hard snow that has packed together from people walking on it. So if possible, start removing the snow and ice in the morning. If you remove the top layer of snow in the morning, any sunshine during the day will help melt any ice beneath. You can then cover the path with salt before nightfall to stop it refreezing overnight.

Preventing slips

Pay extra attention to clearing snow and ice from steps and steep pathways – you might need to use more salt on these areas

Use salt or sand - not water

Don't make the pathways more dangerous by causing them to refreeze. If you use water to melt the snow, it may refreeze and turn to black ice. Black ice increases the risk of injuries as it is invisible and very slippery.

You can melt snow or prevent black ice by spreading some salt on the area you have cleared. You can use ordinary table or dishwasher salt - a tablespoon for each square metre you clear should work. Don't use the salt found in salting bins - this will be needed to keep the roads clear.

Be careful not to spread salt on plants or grass as it may damage them.

If you don't have enough salt, you can also use sand or ash. These won't stop the path icing over as effectively as salt, but will provide good grip underfoot.

Take care where you move the snow

When you're shovelling snow, take care where you put it so it doesn't block people's paths or drains. Make sure you make a path down the middle of the area to be cleared first, so you have a clear surface to walk on. Then shovel the snow from the centre of the path to the sides.

Offer to clear your neighbours' paths

If your neighbour will have difficulty getting in and out of their home, offer to clear snow and ice around their property as well. Check that any elderly or disabled neighbours are alright in the cold weather. If you're worried about them, try contacting their relatives or friends, or if necessary the local council.

A summary of advice to villagers follows for publication in the Roundabout and posting on the parish notice boards:

Winter Management – Advice to Villagers

There are 11 salt bins located around the village. The Parish Council will make sure these are filled ready for the public to use on the village roads.



Helping thy neighbour

If your neighbour will have difficulty getting in and out of their home, offer to clear snow and ice around their property as well. Check that any elderly or disabled neighbours are alright in the cold weather.

Can I clear someone else's path without fear of litigation?

Yes – people walking on snow and ice have a responsibility to be careful themselves. However, make sure that you clear the pathway safely and effectively.

Taking care

When should I clear snow?

Move it early, before it gets compacted. If possible, start removing the snow and ice in the morning. Any sunshine during the day will help melt any ice beneath. You can then cover the path with salt before nightfall to stop it refreezing overnight.

Danger - If you use water to melt the snow, it may refreeze and turn to black ice. Black ice increases the risk of injuries, as it is invisible and very slippery.





Buckden Parish Council Winter Management Plan

Version Control Record

Version	Date	Author	Reason for update
v2	Oct 2020	The Clerk	Planned review