



WEST HOATHLY PARISH COUNCIL

representing Highbrook, Selsfield, Sharpthorne, Tyes Cross and West Hoathly

Local Winter Management Plan Reviewed September 2023

WSCC General Highways

During Winter (1st Nov – 30th April)
use the [online form](#)
or phone 01243 642105

Mid Sussex Area Highways
<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/>
Phone: 01243 642105

County-wide Winter Management function

Pre-Winter Preparedness
active.communities@westsussex.gov.uk
Partnerships and Communities Team,
Communities & Public Protection , West
Sussex County Council, 2nd Floor, East
Wing, County Hall, Chichester

West Hoathly Parish Council contact details:

The Parish Clerk (Leanne Andrews)
Parish Office
North Lane
West Hoathly
RH19 4QG
Telephone: 01342 811301 / 07483149749
Email: clerk@westhoathly.gov.uk

Website: www.westhoathly.gov.uk

West Hoathly Parish – WSCC Precautionary Grit/Salting routes

The Winter Service Network will be gritted as a precaution to prevent the formation of ice, as far as reasonably practicable. Within the parish this includes:

This can be found on one.network under driver information

- B2028 Turners Hill to Ardingly, Vowels Lane from Selsfield Common to B2110 at Kingscote
- Top Road to Horsted Lane / Sharpthorne Rd junction, Station Road, Hamsey Road, The Hollow, Chapel Row and C319 Selsfield Rd south of the junction with Vowels Lane.
North Lane and Church Hill
- Horsted Lane

West Hoathly Parish – WSCC Snow Clearance

The Winter Resilient Network is a reduced network to be treated/ploughed in the event of (severe Weather) snow greater than **5 cm**.

In the neighbouring areas only the A264 and A22 are included in this network.

Mr William Buckley of Hook Farm, West Hoathly has an agreement with WSCC to clear local roads if the Resilient Plan is triggered.

The following priority clearance has been agreed locally.

Priority One

- North Lane, West Hoathly
- Church Hill, West Hoathly
- Station Road, Sharpthorne (not included by West Sussex)
- Hamsey Road, Sharpthorne
- Marlpit Road and Bayhams Field, Sharpthorne

Priority Two

- Hook Lane/Cob Lane
- Hammingden Lane, Highbrook

Mr Buckley in conjunction with the Parish Clerk, will assess the conditions and determine whether the tolerance of his snow plough would cause more problems if he tried to clear the roads.

Following an annual survey carried out by West Hoathly Parish Council, WSCC will fill all grit bins in October. Mr William Buckley has agreed, funded by WSCC, to replenish local grit bins when necessary (see attached list and location map).

WSCC will determine when this agreement is activated by approving the use of a local contractor for Precautionary Salting and/or snow clearance.

Hippo bags for replenishing local grit bins during the winter period are stored at Hook Farm, Hook Lane, West Hoathly. These hippo bags are covered by tarpaulins to reduce the amount of salt that will leach out of them.

During the winter period local residents should inform the Parish Clerk of any grit bin that is empty so that re-filling can be arranged.

West Hoathly Parish Council Winter Plan

Most of the roads in West Hoathly Parish are hilly. The parish is rural with lanes which are steep in places serving isolated communities including the hamlet of Highbrook. West Hoathly and Sharpthorne have a bus service operating from East Grinstead to Crawley which is generally every two hours, during the day, Monday to Saturday. This is not regarded as a priority bus service by WSCC (frequency less than every hour). Pavements are limited.

As a rural community we should be realistic in our expectation of the level of precautionary services provided which we recognise have to be prioritised on the main towns and A roads.

Therefore the Parish Council will:

- Advise the community on what measures are planned and what roads can be expected to be treated or snow cleared [As above]
- Provide local information using the parish council website.
- Ensure grit bin locations are known by WSCC (see map of locations).
- Advise residents that grit is provided for public roads and pavements, not for private drives. Note: generally there is a tendency to apply too much salted grit by hand spade. Distributing it as sparing as possible with a spade is sufficient. Take care not to over exert yourself.
- Inform people that if they believe grit is being stolen they should take a note of the registration and description of the vehicle and let the local police know on their non-emergency number 101.
- The above advice to be provided via the website and through the December/January edition of the West Hoathly Chronicle.
- Identify a central location for receipt of emergency grit by tote bags if bins become depleted. This will be the Finche Field recycling area (see map of grit bin locations).
- Ask people with 4x4s who are available to help in an emergency to make themselves known.
- Ask people who have elderly or disabled neighbours to discuss emergency help arrangements with them before the onset of bad weather.
- Advise residents to keep reasonable stocks of food in the house.
- Remind residents that Plaw Hatch Farm has cows and produces its own milk.
- Be aware that arrangements for school closures are decided by head teachers. School and school bus emergency planning arrangements can be found on a daily basis by searching the relevant school's website (typing the school name into a search engine should find it).

Mr Gary Coxall has agreed to clear the steps up to Finche Field from the Vinols Cross and also the path to the side entrance of West Hoathly Village Hall.

Mr Paul Brown has agreed to clear the footway from the junction of Top Road and Church Hill down to opposite Bulldogs Bank.

Advice to Volunteers Clearing Snow

A snow-clearer does have a duty to clear with reasonable care so as not to create a new and worse risk.

Do's

- Follow the Local Parish Winter Management Plan
- Move snow to a porous surface such as a grass verge or garden
- Spread salt/grit evenly and at appropriate spread rate
- Clear any excess salt or grit once the snow/ ice has melted.

Don'ts

- Use water to melt snow and ice, if there is a risk it will refreeze,
- Move snow to a location where it will create another risk such as obstruction of another part of the pavement, road or where people are likely to walk.
- Use excessive salt, grit or other materials so as to create a new or worse risk once the snow/ ice has melted.
- Park on the pavements creating a danger for pedestrians and forcing them to walk in the road.

References:

Map with location of parish grit bins
WSCC Winter Management Plan
MSDC Winter Planning