



Blockley Parish Council

Winter Plan 2021

With the onset of Winter and in preparation of declining weather conditions, please find information below that we hope will be of use.

1. Road clearance

- Highways clear the main route through Blockley and Paxford, (B4479) as part of Gloucestershire's strategic network. They do not have the resources to do smaller roads and sometimes these are cleared by the local Snow Plough Operator as directed by Highways. (Please note that the Snow Plough Operator will not always be able to clear these side roads as this depends on resource, time and the number of parked cars).
- Here is the link to the Gloucestershire Highways snow clearing map which shows the Strategic Network of roads that Highways will clear: [Winter - Are you ready? - Highways \(goucestershire.gov.uk\)](https://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/winter-are-you-ready-highways)
- This link also gives advice on how to prepare for cold weather, looking after yourself and neighbours, NHS advice, Met Office information, gritting and the Government Cold Weather Plan.

2. Gritting

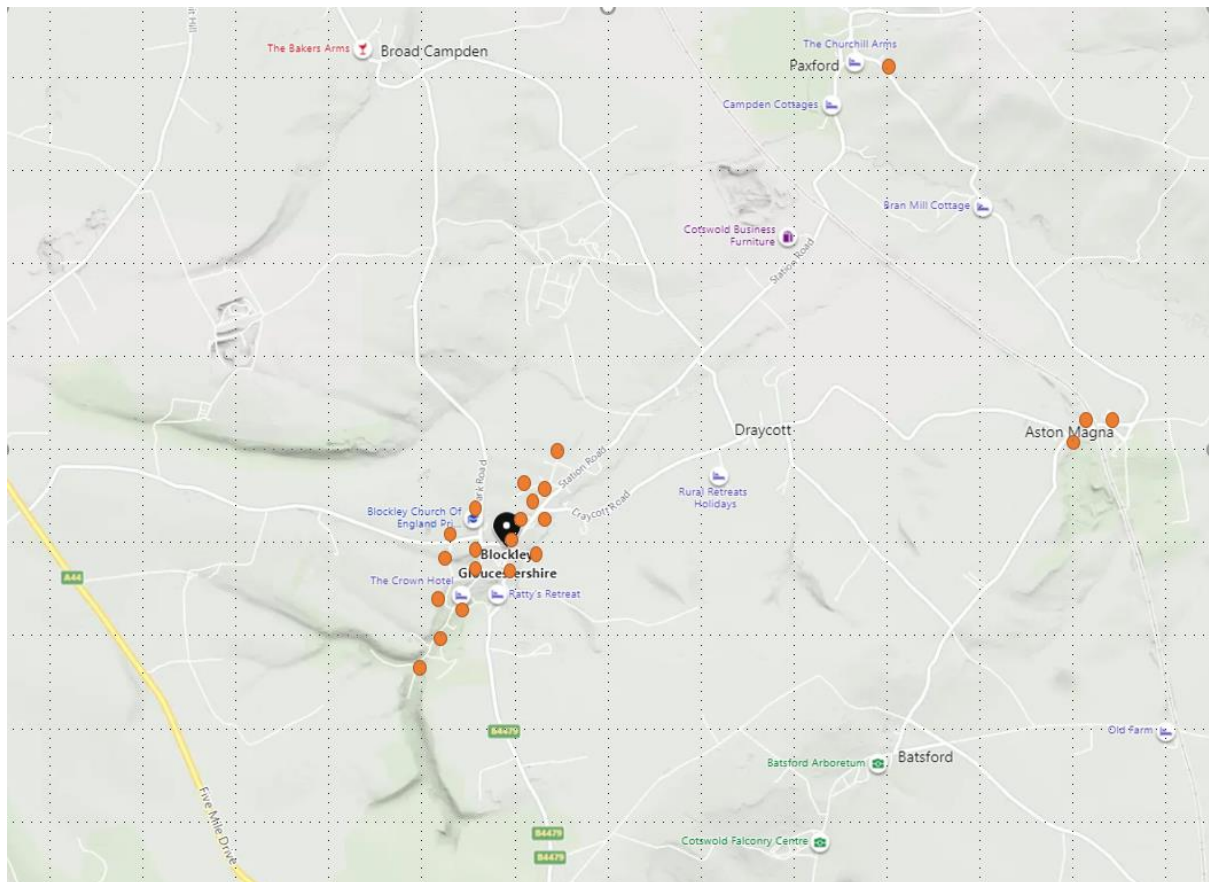
- The Highways winter service team grits over 1,000 miles of the county's road network, have over 4,800 grit bins for the public to use and work with over 100 snow warden volunteers. Highways clear the main route through Blockley and Paxford (B4479) as part of Gloucestershire's strategic network only when the weather conditions indicate icy conditions. Highways are responsible for the road network and during adverse winter weather Gloucestershire Highways' resources are focused on keeping the strategic carriageway network running, with priority being given to bus routes, schools, and routes with emergency services such as hospitals, doctors, fire and ambulance stations.
- In addition, residents can help themselves to grit from the bins across the parish. The grit bins across the parish are filled in the Autumn. The Parish Council, working with the local Snow Warden will try to replenish these after heavy use if we have the grit and resources to do so.

3. Locally

- The Parish Council try to assist Highways by ordering salt stocks, checking on the grit bins and refilling them if we have stock to do so. (Please let us know if your local bin is running low by emailing parishclerk@blockley.org.uk).
- Grit bins are located at sites where there are sloping roads, these areas have been highlighted as a priority need due to the incline. Please find the latest grit bin location map below.
- Please note that different types and amounts of snow will determine the actions taken locally and these may differ across the parish.

4. Gritting on pavements and footpaths

- Residents often ask if they can clear and grit pavements and yes you can if you use a common-sense approach. See the Government website for their advice: gov.uk/clear-snow-road-path-cycleway.
- Please help yourself to grit if you want to use it on public land like roads and pavements. Please do **not** use it on private drives as that is illegal use and you can be prosecuted for that.
- If everyone (who is able) can clear the area outside of their property this will have a huge positive impact. In some areas of the parish this works really well with groups of residents working together to clear their roads.



Additional Information

- Gloucestershire Prepared has just published a booklet about how to respond in an emergency. You can find it on this link <http://glosprepared.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Are-you-ready-booklet-Web-version.pdf>
- There is a new link to the Closed Schools website in case schools are shut due to snow on Gloucestershire school and library closures - Gloucestershire County Council
- Click here for Gloucestershire County Council's winter leaflet <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/1517507/winter-update-leaflet-a5s.pdf>