

# **SEVERE WEATHER AND GENERAL EMERGENCY PLAN**

## **PARISH OF WARDINGTON**

### **Introduction**

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) have recommended that parishes formulate a severe weather/emergency plan which is based upon looking after the elderly, sick and infirm who may need to get to a doctor/ surgery/ hospital in an emergency.

Wardington Parish Council have formulated a simple, basic plan that would be readily available for **ALL** parishioners in a genuine case for the need of practical assistance – and not just for severe winter weather.

### **SEVERE WEATHER PLAN**

In the event of the roads being closed by snow, volunteers 4x4s are available for transportation of **any** ill parishioner to the nearest Rendezvous point [R.V] for an Ambulance.

The **RV** points are:

**Junction from Wardington onto A361 Southbound.**

**Junction from Wardington onto A361 Northbound [Taylors cottage].**

**Junction of Edgcote Lane onto A361.**

**Junction from Williamscot onto A361 Southbound.**

In all cases, the RV point **MUST** be described to the emergency service dispatcher.

Please refer to Appendix A for those offering their services and contact details.

**Anyone in need of assistance should call the volunteer CLOSEST to them.**

**There is bound to be an occasion when not all volunteers are available so just keep ringing the numbers until you get the help you need.**

### **ROAD CLEARANCE**

OCC Highways try and keep the main roads clear but will not salt bus routes on non-priority roads. Despite requests this has usually meant that the bus route through Wardington has not been cleared or salted.

Please refer to Appendix A for volunteers who have kindly agreed to provide services, in an attempt to keep the snow down on the main roads out of the village, on a re-imbursement basis.

### **SALT BINS**

The village salt bins are provided solely for use on public roads and pavements and **NOT for private drive ways**. This Winter we have been notified by OCC highways that they will be filled on a once only basis and will not be refilled.

### **Triage Service**

For Triage service in the event of a medical emergency and subject to availability, see Appendix A

For **ALL** Parishioners **OVER 60 or** for those who are housebound through illness, regardless of age, a **FOOD AND PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION SERVICE** is available, see Appendix A.

### **SUGGESTED ITEMS TO HAVE HANDY IN THE HOUSE**

FIRST AID KIT

TORCH

BATTERY OP OR WIND UP RADIO

ENOUGH MEDICATION

SHOVEL/SPADE

THERMOS FLASK

CANDLES

MATCHES

ANALOGUE TELEPHONE in the event of a Power failure.

FOOD AND DRINK that does not require electricity to prepare it.

### **CHECKING ON ELDERLY/ INFIRM/ ILL/ THOSE LIVING ALONE**

We are such a strong and good natured community – **PLEASE** do remember to check those friends and neighbours who fit into the above categories during severe weather.

Thank you all for taking the time to read this and please keep it handy – let us hope that we never have to execute it!

### **SNOW GUIDE – BASED ON ADVICE FROM OCC**

#### **THE LAW**

There is no law preventing you from clearing snow and ice on the pavement outside your property, pathways to your property, or public spaces.

It is very unlikely that you would face any legal liability, as long as you are careful, and use common sense to ensure that you do not make the pavement or pathway clearly more dangerous than before. People using areas affected by snow and ice also have a responsibility to be careful themselves.

## **What you can do to help clear snow and ice from pavements and public spaces**

Practical advice from highway engineers is given below. This is not a comprehensive list.

- Start early: it is much easier to remove fresh, loose snow compared to compacted ice that has been compressed by people walking on it.
- **Do not use hot water**. This will melt the snow, but may replace it with black ice, increasing the risk of injury.
- Be a good neighbour: some people may be unable to clear snow and ice on paths leading to their property or indeed the footway fronting their property. Snowfall and cold weather pose particular difficulties for them gaining access to and from their property or walking to the shops.
- If shovelling snow, consider where you are going to put it, so that it does not block people's paths, or block drainage channels. This could shift the problem elsewhere.
- Make a pathway down the middle of the area to be cleared first, so you have a clear surface to walk on. Then you can shovel the snow from the centre to the sides.
- Spreading some salt on the area you have cleared will help to prevent any ice forming. Table salt or dishwasher salt will work, but avoid spreading on plants or grass as they may be damaged by it. A few grams (a tablespoon) for each square metre you clear should work. The salt found in salting bins will be needed for keeping roads clear.
- Particular care and attention should be given to steps and steep gradients to ensure snow and ice is removed. You might need to apply additional salt to these areas.
- Use the sun to your advantage. Removing the top layer of snow will allow the sun to melt any ice beneath; however you will need to cover any ice with salt to stop it refreezing overnight.
- If there is no salt available, then a little sand or ash is a reasonable substitute. It will not have the same de-icing properties as salt but should offer grip under foot.

Wardington Parish Council (Jan 2022)

## **Appendix A – Contact names and telephone numbers**

### **SEVERE WEATHER AND GENERAL EMERGENCY PLAN** **PARISH OF WARDINGTON**

#### **AREAS OF 4X4 COVER AND DRIVERS**

George Martin	Williamscot Area	<b>07990 690505</b>
Lexi G-F	Edgcote Lane To 1 <sup>st</sup> Turn [Taylors Cottage]	<b>750843</b>
Andrew Steven	Old Pool Area to End of Thorpe Road [N]	<b>750765</b>
Arthur Griffin	As above	<b>758002</b>
Rex Anson	As above	<b>758251</b>
Malcolm Patterson	Old Pool Area to Corner Mount & to A361	<b>750014</b>

**Anyone in need of assistance should call the volunteer CLOSEST to them.**

**There is bound to be an occasion when not all volunteers are available so just keep ringing the numbers until you get the help you need.**

#### **ROAD CLEARANCE**

Mr George Page **758122**

#### **Triage Service**

Mr John Rourke [Taylor's Cottage] has very kindly offered a Triage service as a qualified person in the event of a medical emergency subject to his availability.

Ray Herd is willing to offer a **FOOD AND PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION SERVICE** for **ALL** Parishioners **OVER 60** or for those who are housebound to illness regardless of age. **Tel 07787 745668**

**If any other parishioner would like to offer their services, or any of the above volunteers can no longer fulfil the commitment, or details need amending, or if there are any questions relating to the help and support available, please contact the Parish Clerk:-**

Kirsty Buttle **07419 126 206**

Wardington Parish Council (Jan 2022)