

Turners Hill Winter Management Plan 2023/24

Adopted: 3rd October 2023



The purpose of this document is to set out the procedures should the Parish of Turners Hill be impacted by severe winter weather. The document will include local contacts, roads in the village the Council believes should be treated and the current location of grit bins and areas available for bulk grit deliveries for use by residents on the public highway.

West Sussex County Council, as Highway Authority, assumes overall responsibility on snow and ice clearance on the public highway. Their priorities are concentrated on keeping the main roads and routes to essential services open throughout the County.

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The Chairman of the Parish Council will take the lead in co-ordinating local resources during adverse weather. He will receive a copy of the Daily Decision issued, and liaise with other key personnel and local contacts as to any action to be taken.

Contacts

In the first instance you should contact the Parish Council Office, either by leaving a voicemail or sending an email. Both of these will be monitored during adverse events (even outside of office hours). If you can't get in touch with the Office or need to speak to someone urgently, please contact someone else on the list.

Leanne Bannister/ Charlotte Jim	Clerk & Deputy Clerk	01342 712226 office@turnershillparishcouncil.gov.uk
Bruce Forbes	Chairman	01342 719866 07511 058689 bruce.forbes@turnershillparishcouncil.gov.uk
Sue Hughesdon	Vice Chairman	01342 714002 07792 105098 sue.hughesdon@turnershillparishcouncil.gov.uk
Gary Marsh	Councillor responsible for Roads and Transport	01444 811320 gary.marsh@turnershillparishcouncil.gov.uk
	MSDC liaison	gary.marsh@midsussex.gov.uk
Barry Theobald	Councillor responsible for Clockfield and North Street	07552 287846 barry.theobald@turnershillparishcouncil.gov.uk
Ian Gibson	Councillor responsible for checking availability of grit	01342 716790 ian.gibson@turnershillparishcouncil.gov.uk

Areas of Concern

At the current time main areas of concern are:



Lion Lane, as the road and footpath are very steep and access to the General Store is restricted.

Mount Lane, although not steep, is liable to extreme levels of ice. As it is the only access to the sheltered housing for the elderly at Noahs Court it is seen as a serious area of concern. Carers, family and emergency services are not able to access the sheltered housing by road in severe weather.

North Street is a key road connecting Medway, Hill House Close and Clockfield to services in the village. It is steep and very narrow at some points. The pavements are a walking route to school.

Other areas which suffer considerably are **Willow Ridge, Withypitts Estate, Medway and Hill House Close** all of which have very steep access, these are residential areas and entrance and exit is virtually impossible in severe weather.

Gritting and snow clearance

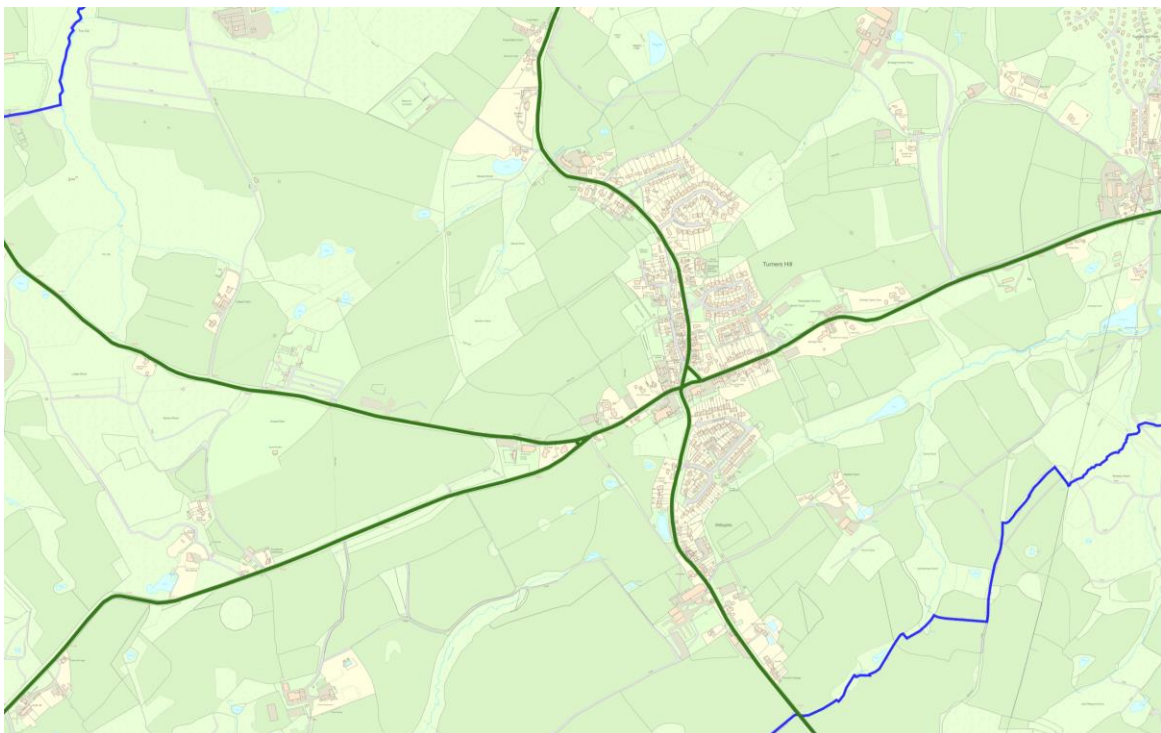
Each day West Sussex County Council receive a 24-hour weather forecast and will use this to decide whether or not to grit roads. Their top priority roads to grit are strategic A roads and roads that lead to emergency services. Their next priority roads are the rest of the A road network and B roads.

The following roads in Turners Hill are on the list to be gritted:

B2110

B2028

Turners Hill Road (past Tulleys Farm)



In heavy snowfall, gritting treatment will reduce so that West Sussex County Council can concentrate on key roads.

EFP Balcombe has been contracted to do the following:

- snow clearance of Mount Lane, Lion Lane, North Street, Willow Ridge and Withypitts carriageways
- snow clearance at the entrances to Hill House Close and Medway

Location of Grit Bins

Lion Lane – to the side of Central Stores

Lion Lane – lower green near electricity sub station

Lion Lane – by the entrance to the allotments (foliage from around the bin will be trimmed before winter)

Medway – at the entrance, next to post box (it is noted that the lid to this bin is broken, but appears to be keeping rain off of the grit)

Mount Lane – opposite The Ark

Mount Lane – in the drive leading to the back car park outside the office

North Street – near junction with Hill House Close

North Street – opposite Clockfield

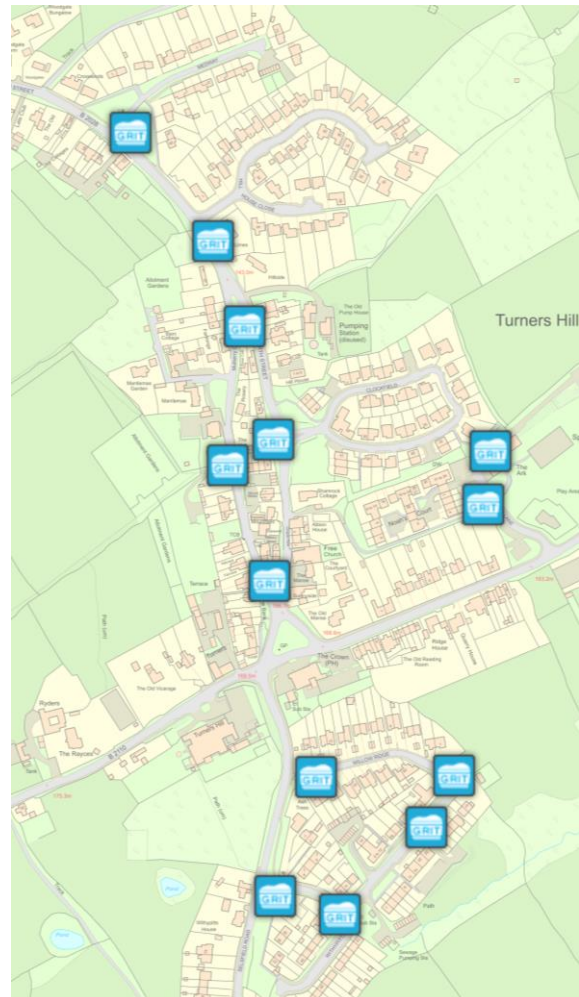
Willow Ridge – outside No.17

Willow Ridge – at junction with Withypitts East

Withypitts – at junction with Selsfield Road

Withypitts – at junction with Withypitts East

Withypitts East – at access road to flats, next to No.29



After all adverse weather events, Cllr Gibson will check the grit levels in all bins and advise the Clerk so that the bins can be refilled (subject to availability of grit).

It was agreed that Council purchase grit bins at the following locations:

- Top end of Hill House Close – approx. cost of £234
- To the left of the bus stop in the village centre – approx. cost of £169
- By the rear wall of Shamrock Cottage by the road sign – approx. cost of £234

Subject to licences being granted by West Sussex County Council, these bins will be purchased and fitted. They cannot be added to the list of bins to be filled of grit by West Sussex County Council until October 2024, and so they will have some grit put in them from the stores held by the Parish Council.

Bulk Bag Deliveries

Grit bins will only be filled by West Sussex County Council once and therefore the Council requires bulk bags of grit to be delivered.

The grit will only be used for public highway and not on private land.

Six bulk bags will be requested to be delivered to the rear of The Ark, Mount Lane, Turners Hill, RH10 4RA. They will be protected from the elements by use of tarpaulin.

The bulk bags will be moved by volunteers to the smaller grit bins.

The Council will store bulk bags of grit at The Ark on behalf of Clockfield residents, at their own cost. Clockfield residents will be responsible for the storing and movement of the grit and this will be clearly labelled. The Council reserves the right to ask that the grit is removed at any time (and will not do this unreasonably).

Volunteers

The Parish Council encourages and welcomes help from residents to help spread grit and clear snow. Snow shovels, visibility vests, gloves etc are available at The Ark and the Council will endeavour to deliver equipment when required.

Volunteers are not at risk of being sued by any person that slips on a cleared area of snow.

When clearing snow / ice the following must be adhered to:

- Snow will be moved to a porous surface such as a grass verge or garden.
- Salt/grit will be spread evenly and at appropriate spread rates – 20 grams of salt/grit per square metre when hand salting.
- Salt/grit can be spread using shovels but care is required to ensure over salting does not occur.
- Clear any excess salt/grit once the snow/ice has melted.
- Don't use water to melt snow and ice if there is a risk it will refreeze.

- Do not move snow to a location where it will create another risk such as another part of the pavement, road or where people are likely to walk.
- Don't use excessive salt/grit or other materials so as to create a new or worse risk once the snow/ice has melted.

Funding & Commitments from the Parish Council

An earmarked reserve will be created of £3,000 to cover the cost of appointing a contractor and purchasing new grit bins. This will be taken from the VES earmarked reserve.

An updated Winter Plan will be delivered by Parish Councillors to the areas listed below:

Hill House Close – Cllr Sue Hughesdon

Medway – Cllr Ian Gibson

Clockfield, Lion Lane and North Street – Cllr Barry Theobald

Willow Ridge, Withypitts, Withypitts East and Selsfield Road – Cllr Gary Marsh

East Street, Noahs Court, Church Road and The Bank – Cllr Jennie Forbes and Cllr Bruce Forbes

This Plan will be reviewed and updated each year.