

STAMFORD BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

We have now had two successive years where we have had extended periods of ice and snow covering the roads and pavements, and may well have further snow falls before the winter is out. During these periods the roads and pavements were treacherous and many people were effectively confined to their homes. Although several stalwart residents helped out with shopping etc, it is clear that in future we will need to act early as a community in order to clear paths and pavements and prevent the build up of hard packed ice.

There has been a general feeling that 'Health and Safety' law meant that there was a possibility of being sued if someone was injured as a result of the householder clearing the pavement. Thankfully, the Government have issued a Snow Code to encourage people to clear snow from the frontage of their property in the knowledge that they are unlikely to be sued should someone slip.

The code advises:

- 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.
- Make sure you are clearly visible when working
- DO NOT USE hot water as this may refreeze into black ice
- Be a good neighbour and clear adjoining pavements where appropriate
- When clearing 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.
- Use table or dishwasher salt, avoiding plants
- Use ash or grit if available
- Use common sense

There is no law preventing people from acting this way, and the advantages of being able to walk safely on the pavements are obvious. It would be helpful if the need arises, for residents to follow the code in the light of the Government advice.

The code can be found at http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/NI1/Newsroom/DG_191868

Stamford Bridge Parish Council have received £1,000.00 ERYC emergency Winter Fund and propose spending the £1,000.00 on three new salt bins for Low Catton Road – outside the Village Hall, Battleflats / Burton Fields Rd junction and Roman Ave North – bend at the junction of Godwinsway and Roman Av North along with two salt runs around the minor roads from Smallwood's.

The cost of the salt bins and salt from Smallwood's would cost £1,250.00 with the Parish Council paying £250.00. The above action along with the additional 8 new salt bins as detailed below should help the snow clearance around the Village.

Yellow Bins provided by ERYC are to be placed in : Church Road, Schools (2 Bins), Station Sports & Social Club, Daneswell Close / Wharton Rd and Lob Lane/ Moor Rd junction.

Green Bins paid for by the Parish Council but provided and serviced by ERYC are to be placed in: Norseway/Fossway junction and Cherry Paddock off Huntsman's Lane.

