



Chedworth Parish Council

WINTER EMERGENCY PLAN SUMMARY



WHAT DO WE MEAN BY A WINTER EMERGENCY?

Predominantly icy roads and significant snowfall but also fallen trees, broken overhead cables, flooding and loss of services such as electricity, telephone or water.

WHAT HELP WILL BE AVAILABLE?

In the event of icy weather or snow, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) and Chedworth Parish Council provide the following services:

- GCC Highways usually grits the Fosse Way, the White Way and Fields Road when freezing temperatures or snow fall are predicted.
- After significant snowfall GCC Highways snow Ploughs will operate on Fields Road and the White Way but cannot guarantee that other village roads will be cleared.
- Salt/Grit bins are located around the village for use on public roads. GCC Highways fill these at the beginning of the winter and provide a further store for replenishment. If you are aware that any of the bins is empty please contact the clerk with the number of the bin so that the Parish Council can arrange for it to be refilled.
- Area wardens will coordinate efforts to clear other roads and paths for vehicles and pedestrians.
- Steep and narrow roads cannot always be gritted or ploughed. These include Cooks Hill, Tuns Hill, Hawkes Lane, Calves Hill, Green Lane and Pancake Hill.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF AREA WARDENS?

The Parish Council has recruited a number of Area Wardens who have volunteered to:

- Be familiar with their neighbourhood.
- Be aware of elderly or vulnerable residents and ensure that they are supported.
- Monitor the state of the roads, including potholes and blocked drains.
- Replenish grit bins as necessary.
- Liaise with Winter Emergency Plan Coordinators. Encourage/ organise working parties to clear snow if needed.

HOW YOU CAN PREPARE FOR WINTER

There are a number of simple things you can do to make sure you are prepared for bad weather:

- Consider fitting winter tyres to your car, even if you already have a 4x4.
- Have a snow shovel and supplies of salt.
- Have some food and essential supplies in reserve.
- Know who your Area Warden is and make a note of their contact details. (see attached list)
- Keep an eye on the weather forecast for weather warnings <https://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/2653276>
- For more information see <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/seasonal-advice/travel>

KEEPING SAFE IF THE WEATHER IS BAD

- If icy weather or snowfall is forecast and you are likely to need to get out of the village, consider leaving your car at the Village Hall or the Farm Shop. If you do this, you should either let them know that you have done so or leave a note in your car with your name and contact details. Please park sensibly without blocking entrances and then remove your car as soon as practical.
- If possible, please avoid leaving your car on the road - it may obstruct the snow plough or gritter.
- If you do need to go out in cold or difficult weather, wear visible clothing, dress warmly and try to make sure someone knows where you are.
- Fresh snow is easier to clear before it is walked or driven on and salt is more effective if most of the snow is cleared first before salt is spread thinly.

HOW TO RESPOND TO OTHER EMERGENCIES

ROADS

Gloucestershire Highways are responsible for potholes, road signals and signs, roadside trees and hedges, drainage and flooding, spillages or obstructions on the road. If any highway issue poses an immediate danger to public safety contact Gloucestershire Highways on their emergency number **08000 514 514**.

POWER

To report a power cut or any problem with power cables call **0800 31 63 105 or 105**

WATER

To report a problem to Thames Water call **0800 316 9800**

For any medical emergency you should always ring 999.

You will be asked for your postcode but if you live in an isolated area it may also help if you know the Grid Reference for your house which can be found at <https://gridreferencefinder.com/>.

Many emergency services now also use the What3words system which has allocated three words to every spot in the world. Log onto the website at <https://what3words.com/> to find the three words which identify your house and download the app to your phone so you can find the code for wherever you are.

In the unlikely event that the ambulance service cannot get to you, there are doctors who live in the village who are willing to help in an emergency.

The village also has 3 defibrillators, located at lower Chedworth phone box, the Village Hall and the Seven Tuns. If the situation is so serious that you think you may need to use a defibrillator remember you must **ALWAYS CALL 999** first.