

TANSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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RISK ASSESSMENT - SNOW CLEARING IN TANSLEY

Objective-To consider Health & Safety Risks associated with Tansley residents volunteering to clear snow from pavements and footpaths in the village.

We are trying this new initiative brought forward by Derbyshire County Council, after last years harsh winter it was thought that we could try to help ourselves and make our village run more smoothly should we have snow. This should benefit all including schoolchildren attending the local primary school and pedestrians generally.

Tansley Parish Council have received a tonne of rock salt, a number of residents have volunteered to take responsibility for clearing pavements of snow within the locality of their homes. The residents will endeavour to keep the pavement clear; however, this will depend on snow conditions and on the residents' time. Snow will not necessarily be cleared on a daily basis; this will be left to the discretion of the volunteer. The volunteers will work within their capabilities. It is assumed that volunteers will be suitably clad in cold weather wear.

Risks to be considered

- The possibility of the volunteers suffering injury due to personal exertions whilst clearing snow.
- The differing effectiveness of the snow clearing as the volunteers will not be synchronised
- Clearing pavements could lead to increased snow on the highway.
- Grit could harm skin if handled.
- Residents cannot depend on a footway being clear of snow – care should be taken at all times when walking in snowy or icy conditions.

Having considered the risks outlined we think the benefits to the community of having improved conditions underfoot during snowy weather out weigh the risks above. It is the responsibility of all Tansley residents to act in a responsible manner, taking due consideration to climatic changes.

Action

The village will be notified via Hotwire of the plan to try and keep certain footways clear of snow, residents will asked to take sensible precautions at all times when moving round the village on foot in snowy weather.

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