

Newton St Cyres Parish Council

Risk Assessment – Snow Wardens

Task	Hazard	Risk	Level of risk	Control measure
Monitoring the amount and quality of grit/salt in their bin to ensure it is ready for use.	The bags are grit are heavy	Damage to the back of the person lifting the sack	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lifting sacks of grit should be done in a safe way with bent knees and a straight back.• Volunteers prone to bad backs should not lift bags of grit.
Working outside in winter	Low temperatures	Risk of frost bite or hyperthermia	Moderate to severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wear suitable thick clothing and footwear with good grip and waterproof.• Check weather forecast before going out. Do not work in extreme conditions or after dark.• Plan what you intend to do and ensure you are properly equipped.• Let someone know where you will be working and when you expect to return.• Take a mobile phone and stay in touch using WhatsApp or similar.
Scattering grit on the pre-agreed areas	Moving heavy loads of grit.	Back damage	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only move small quantities of grit at a time.• Use a wheelbarrow to move the grit any distance.

	Slipping on icy surfaces.	Injury to person after a fall.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers should wear footwear with good grip. • They should assess whether it is safe to walk on the surface before starting work. If in doubt, do not walk on the surface.
	If working on or near roads, possibility of encountering traffic, possibly going too fast or too near	Possible accident between pedestrian and car.	Moderate-severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not work after dark or in other situations of limited visibility. • Wear a high vis vest. • Volunteers do not work on the A377 or Station Road.
Clearing snow	Moving heavy loads of snow	Damage to back	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers must not undertake heroic levels of work. Only clear snow if it's essential and well within your capacity. • If in doubt, do not do it.

Reviewed June 2025