



Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

Risk Assessment

Snow Wardens

Task/Operation:	Snow Warden and Volunteers in Princetown	
Group(s) affected:	Snow Warden, Volunteers, Members of Public (MOP), Highway Users.	
Person(s) undertaking assessment:	Parish Clerk	
Consultees:	Derbyshire County Council documentation	
Date of assessment:	20 January 2014	
Date of Reviews:	20 January 2015	No change
	23 March 2021	Correction of minor typing errors
	29 June 2022	No Change
	27 June 2023	No Change
	March 2024	No Change
Date of Next Review:	June 2026	
<p>General:</p> <p>Snow Wardens to have attended the DCC Snow Warden training course or to have received cascade training from a volunteer who has attended the training.</p> <p>Do not clear highways other than across side roads to provide safe walking between pavement sections.</p> <p>This is a generic risk assessment. The Snow Warden in charge must assess any event specific risks, consulting with any appropriate authorities and record them on this form.</p> <p>10 g/m² is the recommended spread rate of salt. 40 g/m² for packed snow/ice.</p>		

Key: P = Probability; C = Consequence; R = Risk Rating

No	Hazard	Resultant effect(s)	Before control			State control measures to be put in place and by whom	After control		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
1	Slips	Injury to Snow Warden, Injury to Volunteer, Injury to MOP.	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear suitable sturdy footwear with good grip. • Clear 2-3 metres of snow and then apply salt. • Do not clear long stretches without applying salt to the cleared area. • Pay special attention to steps and steep footways. • Endeavour to remove snow as soon as possible after fall, before it is compacted by foot traffic and made more difficult to remove 	1	2	2
2	Trips & Falls	Injury to Snow Warden, Injury to Volunteer, Injury to MOP.	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be familiar with the area you are going to clear in advance of snow conditions. Take note of any potential hazards that may become hidden when snow is on the ground. • Ensure work equipment not in use does not become a trip hazard. • Work during daylight hours or in well-lit areas. • Have a torch available if work is necessary during hours of darkness. 	1	2	2
3	Weather / Cold	Effects of cold, Discomfort, Hypothermia,	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear suitable clothing to keep warm (better to layer-up) • Have regular warm drinks – (take a flask or make alternative arrangements) • Do not carry out the task in extreme conditions. 	1	2	2
4	Vehicular traffic	Struck by moving vehicle Injury or death of Snow Warden, Volunteer, or MOP	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work from footway where possible. • Wear upper body hi-vis clothing. • Be alert to abnormal traffic behaviour. • Stand back and watch traffic past if traffic is passing in close proximity. • Face on-coming traffic where possible. 	1	3	3

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No	Hazard	Resultant effect(s)	Before control			State control measures to be put in place and by whom	After control		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
5a	Manual Handling	Manual handling injury to of Snow Warden or Volunteer.	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm up your muscles before doing the heavy work. Stiff muscles that work hard are more prone to injury. • Don't try to get all the way down to the bottom of deep snow all at once. Try to scoop a many small loads instead of fewer big ones • Practice good manual handling techniques or consider 2 person lift. <p>Maintain good posture:</p> <p>A. Use your leg muscles as much as possible - push snow when you can and use your legs to lift when you can't push it.</p> <p>B. Keep your back straight as you move from the squat position to the upright position.</p> <p>C. Use your shoulder muscles as much as possible.</p> <p>D. Hold the snow shovel as close to your upper body as possible.</p> <p>E. Keep one hand close to the shovel blade for better leverage.</p> <p>F. Don't twist your upper body as you throw snow.</p>	1	2	2
5b	Manual Handling	Manual handling injury to of Snow Warden or Volunteer.	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salt provided in 25kg bags. • Do not move snow twice. • Move snow the shortest distance possible. • Use handling aids to assist where necessary e.g. wheelbarrow / sledge. • Before it snows, store salt bags in strategic locations near where they will be used. • Only carry out the task if you are capable of doing and have signed the 'Fit to Participate' form. 	1	2	2

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No	Hazard	Resultant effect(s)	Before control			State control measures to be put in place and by whom	After control		
			P	C	R		P	C	R
6	Lone Working	No assistance in the event of emergency.	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid lone working where possible. • Let someone (nominated contact) know where you are working and what time you will be back. • Carry a mobile phone (fully charged) and communicate with nominated contact at least once every hour. 	1	3	3
7	Contact with Salt (Chemical / physical) (Note: salt is not classified as dangerous for supply or use)	Drying effect on skin, irritation of skin and open wounds/scratches	1	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid contact with skin and eyes • Keep off vegetation and prevent entering watercourse. First aid – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin: Wash skin water • Eye Contact: Irrigate with clean water for at least 10 minutes. • If symptoms develop, obtain medical attention. 	1	1	1
8	Physical exertion	Exhaustion, Injury,	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work within your own capabilities. • Be mindful of your limitations. • Take frequent rest breaks. 	1	3	3