

HP HELLEDON PARISH COUNCIL

WINTER WEATHER MANAGEMENT POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The Parish Council has a statutory duty to prepare for and deal with snow and ice on property which it owns. This policy has been established to clarify what can be expected from the Council in terms of winter weather management on its own land.

The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Occupiers' Liability Act 1984 place responsibility on an employer/land-owner to maintain access to its premises in a safe condition. Although an employer can be held liable for 'failing to act reasonably' to prevent accidents, pedestrians also have a responsibility to take care.

In order to ensure due care is taken this policy sets out the measures the Council will take. The extent of its responsibility is to do what is reasonable in the circumstances and which is appropriate to the resources at its disposal.

PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

Property or land which WILL be gritted by the Council:
Hellesdon Community Centre, off Woodview Road.

During periods of persistent and severe ice or snow the Council will arrange to grit and clear snow, to the best of its ability and when safe to do so, from the Community Centre car park within the extent of the area for which it has responsibility.

The Parish Council:

- **Will** ensure that areas are well-lit during times of poor visibility when the sites are open, so that obstructions and potential hazards can be seen.
- **Will** inspect hard surface car parks and access ways to buildings daily during severe weather conditions. We will endeavour to clear snow and ice and spread salt/grit on the cleared area to provide a designated pathway to buildings. We may take other action deemed appropriate and this may be displaying suitable notices closing car parks or other measures that may be considered practicable.
- **will not** grit/salt the remainder of the parking areas or non-essential access routes.
- **Will** keep a log of inspections carried out and any action taken.

Grounds/caretaking staff will spread grit when there is an advance forecast of prolonged bad weather, or as soon as it is safe to do so. Gritting will be carried out on a priority basis, and will be re-applied at regular intervals if the bad weather persists. Grit will not be applied when there is a forecast of isolated short-term bad weather. Snow will be cleared when it is safe to do so. The policy and any subsequent revisions will be available on the Parish Council website and displayed for visitors to the Community Centre as and when appropriate so they are aware of arrangements. Hirers and visitors will be required to take adequate precautions during short spells of icy weather, as would be reasonable to expect of any individual.

Property or land which will **NOT** be gritted by the Council:

Council Allotment site, playing fields, and other open spaces. It is reasonable to expect it unlikely that the playing fields and play areas will be much in use during bad weather conditions and it's also reasonable for the Council to allocate its limited resources to other areas of greater public use. The Allotment site have shingle paths and drive way and gritting is therefore not practical or achievable.

GRIT AND EQUIPMENT

The Council will **NOT** make available grit or equipment for use on private land – this is the responsibility of each property/land-owner.

Council's staff who clear snow or spread grit will be provided with appropriate clothing, footwear and equipment and will receive advice and training regarding the correct procedure for all works.

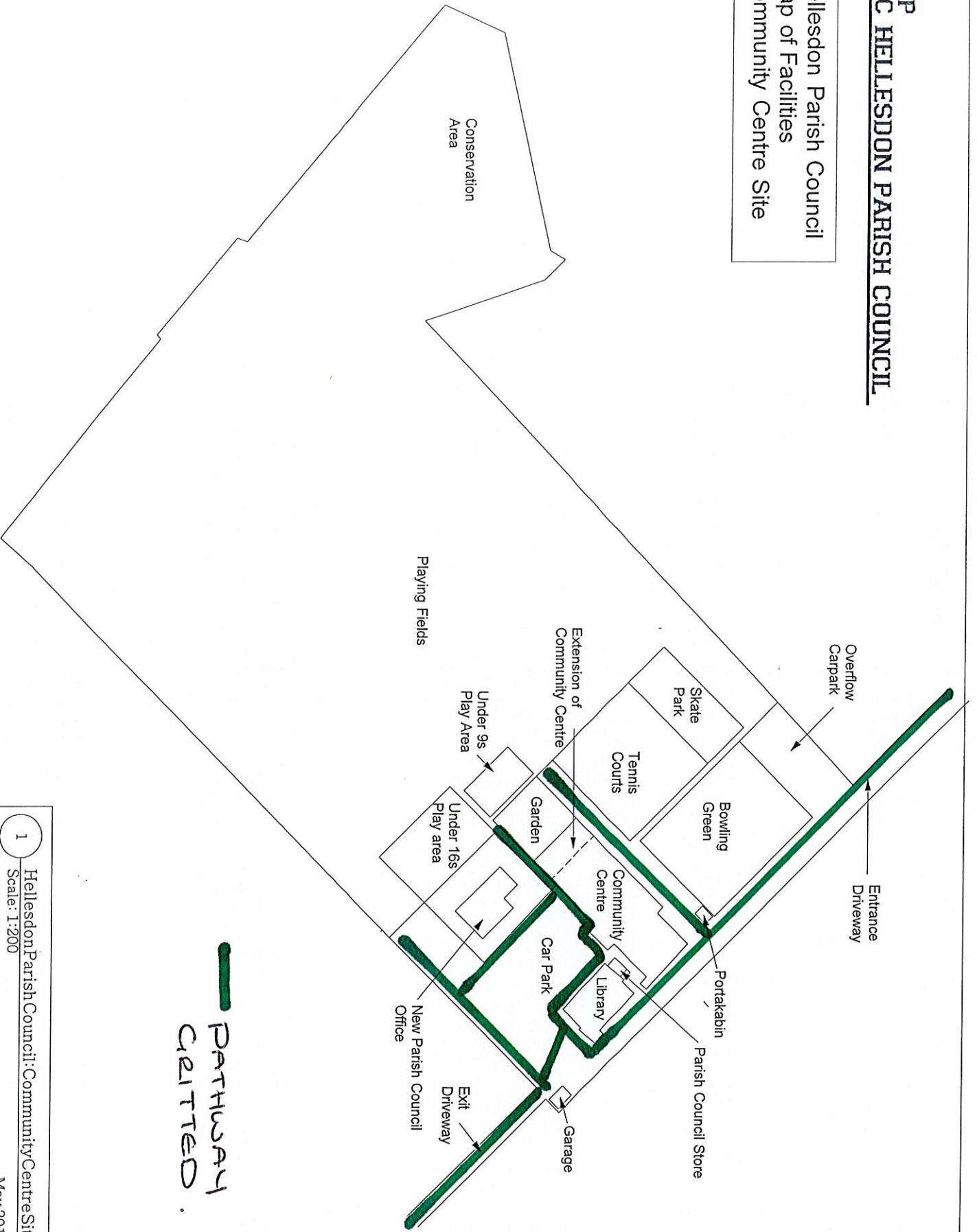
All Parish Council equipment will be checked annually to ensure it is in good working condition and fit for purpose. Records of annual equipment checks will be retained in the Council office.

GENERAL SNOW/ICE CLEARANCE ADVICE

The government advise that members of the public can clear snow and ice from pavements themselves. It's unlikely they will be held responsible if someone is injured on a path or pavement if it has been cleared in a responsible manner. Further guidance is available from the government on www.gov.uk/clear-snow-road-path-cycleway.

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Hellesdon Parish Council
Map of Facilities
Community Centre Site



**PATHWAY
HIGHLIGHTED.**

