

## **Provisional of additional Grit Bins**

### **1. Purpose of the Report**

To provide recommendations from a meeting held on Thursday 14 October which looked at grit bin requests from Parish Councils in the community area. The full list of requests is included at the end of this report.

The attendees were as follows:-

Jerry Kunkler – Pewsey Area Board – Pewsey Division (Chair)  
Robert Hall – Pewsey Area Board – Pewsey Vale Division  
Stuart Wheeler – Pewsey Area Board – Burbage & Bedwyns Division  
Caroline Brailey – Wiltshire Council

### **2. Background**

Wiltshire Council's highways service performed well during the extreme weather last winter according to the response to the recent Parish Newsletter consultation, with 65% considering the Council's response to be good or excellent, and only 5% thinking it was poor or very poor. One aspect that was of particular interest to the Parish Councils was the provision of grit bins.

### **3. Grit Bins**

The Council provides grit bins at suitable locations on minor roads not routinely treated with salt. The bins are filled with salt at the beginning of the winter season, and refilled periodically as the salt is used.

Earlier this year the Council carried out a review of grit bins with the Parish and Town Councils to confirm the location and condition of the 983 existing bins. As a result 65 of the bins are now being repaired or replaced.

### **4. Proposal**

Following the severe weather last winter a large number of requests for additional bins were received. It is not feasible to meet the cost of providing and filling the 422 additional bins requested, but it would be possible to provide about 100 new bins.

It is necessary to prioritise the provision of these bins which represent a 10% increase in bins across the county.

It is proposed that each Area Board should have a 10% increase in the number of bins in their area.

Pewsey Area Board had 56 bins, 28 new bins were requested. Only 6 new bins can be provided.

## **5. Allocation of New Bins**

In all areas the requests exceeded the allocations. It is necessary for the Area Boards to decide the priorities for the allocation of the bins.

Pewsey Area Board members have met to look at the requests and put forward some recommendations for approval at this meeting.

## **6. Factors to consider**

- Grit bins are not provided on roads routinely treated by the Council's gritters.
- Salt must only be used on the highway. It is not for use on private drives or other property.
- The bins must be located so they do not obstruct the carriageway, footways or visibility.
- They are usually placed on highway land, but may be placed on private land with the owner's agreement.
- The final locations will have to be agreed by the area highway staff to ensure road safety.

## **7. Installing and Filling Bins**

The Council will arrange for the bins to be installed.

Arrangements will be made for them to be refilled, but in severe weather the gritting and clearing of snow from the main roads may have to take priority.

The Council can provide Parish Councils with 1 tonne bags of salt in order to speed up the refilling of grit bins provided they have suitable under cover storage and the capability to fill bins in their area.

## **8. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the 6 new bins be allocated to the following Parish Councils:-

North Newnton	Wilcot	Wootton Rivers
Easton Royal.	Grafton	Great Bedwyn

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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report

<b>Parish</b>	<b>Number of Requested Grit Bins</b>
ALTON	
BEECHINGSTOKE	
BURBAGE	2
BUTTERMERE	
CHARLTON ST PETER	1
CHIRTON	
EASTON	1
GRAFTON	6
GREAT BEDWYN	5
HAM	
HUISH	
LITTLE BEDWYN	1
MANNINGFORD	1
MARDEN	1
MILTON LILBOURNE	1
NORTH NEWNTON	4
PATNEY	
PEWSEY	1
RUSHALL	
SHALBOURNE	
STANTON ST BERNARD	
UPAVON	1
WILCOT	2
WILSFORD	
WOODBOROUGH	
WOOTTON RIVERS	1
Total Grit Bins Requested =	28