

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

ITEM 10

AMESBURY AREA BOARD
21 October 2010

ALLOCATION OF GRIT BINS

Background

- 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
- 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.

Factors to consider when prioritising the allocation of grit bins

- Grit Bins are not provided on roads routinely treated by the Councils 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.
- 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 and Town 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.
- The agreed list of sites for the new Grit Bins should be provided to the area highway office as soon as possible so that the site can be inspected, and the bins installed and filled before the start of this winter.

Parish Council requests for bins as part of the review earlier this year

ALLINGTON	-	2
AMESBURY	-	13
BULFORD	-	1
DURNFORD	-	1
DURRINGTON	-	2
GREAT WISHFORD	-	2
STAPLEFORD	-	4
TILSHEAD	-	1
WINTERBOURNE	-	3
WYLYE	-	2
TOTAL	-	31

The Amesbury Area Board only has 4 bins to allocate in 2010/11

- we asked parish councils to review their requests made as part of the review
- in response, 1 additional bin has been requested over and above the 31 previously recorded by Highways as part of the review
- Durrington Town Council has agreed to forego the bins they initially requested as part of the review
- Amesbury Town Council has reduced its request from 13 to 2