

Balcombe Winter Resilience Plan

Adopted at a meeting of Balcombe Parish Council
Wednesday 1 November 2023

Reviewed: 31 October 2023



Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	3
BPC UNDERTAKINGS	4
WSCC GRITTING ROUTES	5
ROADS COVERED BY BPC.....	6
CONTACTS	7
SALT BIN LOCATION	8
SALTING ADVICE.....	9
WEST SUSSEX WELLBEING: KEEPING WARM AND ENERGY ADVICE	10
USEFUL NUMBERS/EMERGENCY CONTACTS	11
MORE SUPPORT AND INFORMATION.....	11

INTRODUCTION

West Sussex County Council (WSSCC), as Highways Authority, has overall responsibility for snow and ice clearance on the public highway but will only routinely service the main through routes into and out of the village.

WSSCC does not undertake any of the following:

- Hand treat footways, footpaths or cycleways
- Treat private, third party or non-highway land
- Refill salt bins / replace stocks of salt when stocks are critical

For further information about WSSCC's role please view the 'West Sussex County Council Highways, Transport & Planning Winter Service Plan':

https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/11nnbyvb/winter_service_plan.pdf

or contact:

active.communities@westsussex.gov.uk

Within Balcombe village, Balcombe Parish Council (BPC) will attempt to minimise the impact of bad weather on the community by undertaking some snow and ice clearance in areas not serviced by WSSCC. This will be done through the clerk facilitating snow clearance, the services of outside contractors and volunteers.

BPC UNDERTAKINGS

The focus of the Winter Management Plan is on maintaining access to priorities areas:

- the village centre, particularly the shop and post office
- bus stops
- The doctors' surgery
- Sheltered/nursing/residential homes:
 - Russettings Care Home
 - Avon House Care Home
 - Jobes Sheltered Housing
- Balcombe Primary School
- Buttercup Barn Nursery

Grit bins are audited annually and will be full as we approach winter. If grit has become compacted a spade should be enough to dislodge it so that it can be easily applied. See guidelines for spreading below.

Reserve salt storage bags are stored at the Balcombe Estate Sawmill.

Balcombe Parish Council will:

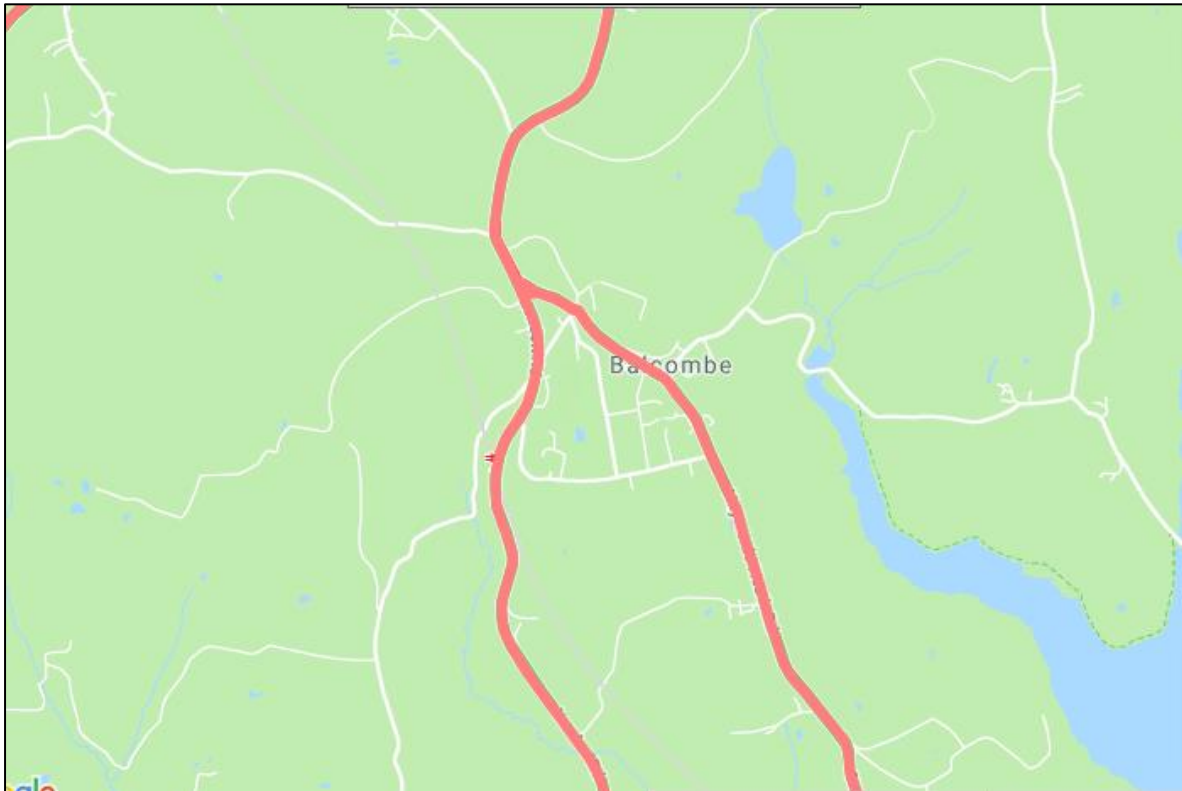
- give parishioners guidelines on how to use the salt provided efficiently and appropriately during severe weather conditions
- refill village salt bins during winter period if they are depleted
- clear roads within the village through the use of contractors operating snow ploughs or gritting at the discretion of the Parish Council

WSCC GRITTING ROUTES

As confirmed in their 'West Sussex County Council Highways, Transport & Planning Winter Service Plan':

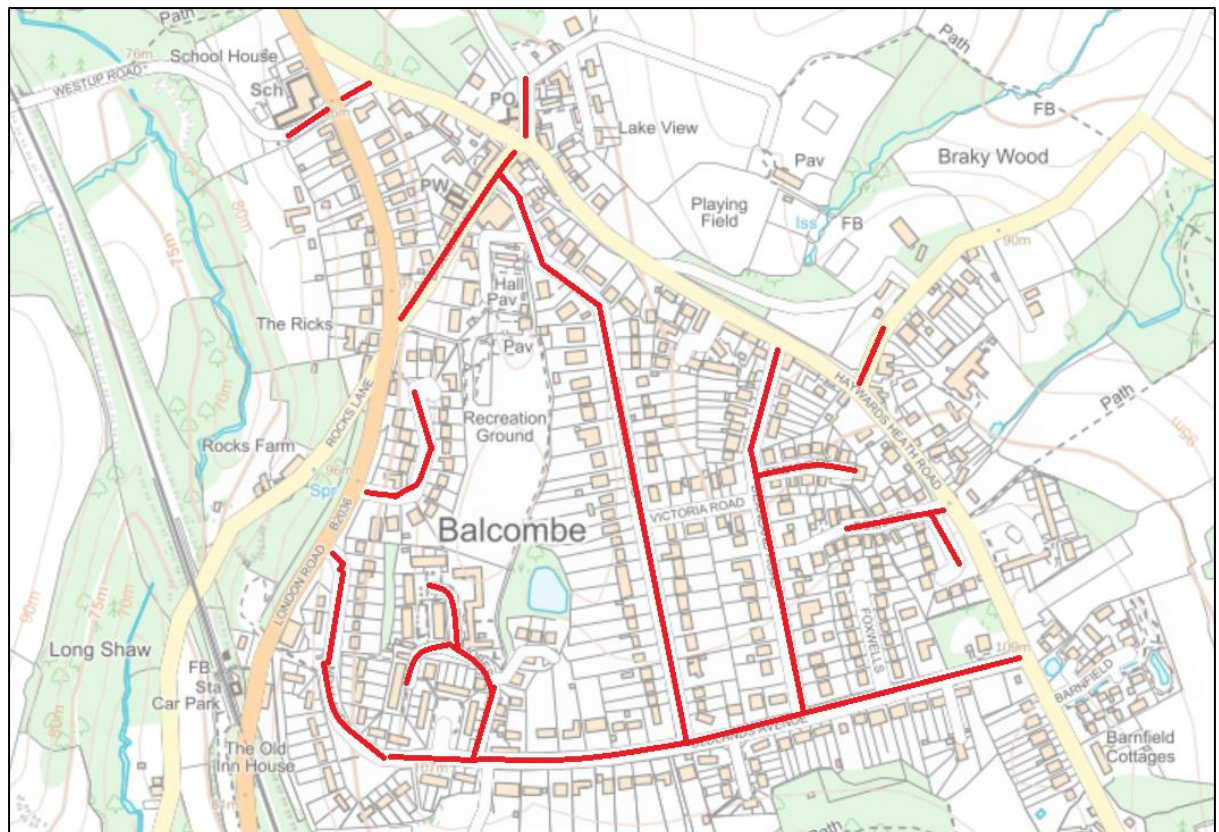
https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/1lnnbyvb/winter_service_plan.pdf

West Sussex grit the following roads in Balcombe:



ROADS COVERED BY BPC

- Newlands
- Combers
- Bramble Hill
- Oldlands Ave
- Foxwells
- Deanland Road
- Stockcroft Road
- Jobs
- Bramble Mead
- Troymede
- Sopers Gardens
- Mill Lane (from Haywards Heath Road up to Russetings)
- Barn Meadow
- Haywards Heath Road (in front of the shops)



— Roads to be gritted

CONTACTS

BALCOMBE PARISH CLERK

Charlotte Jim

Email:

01444 811833

parish.clerk@balcombeparishcouncil.com

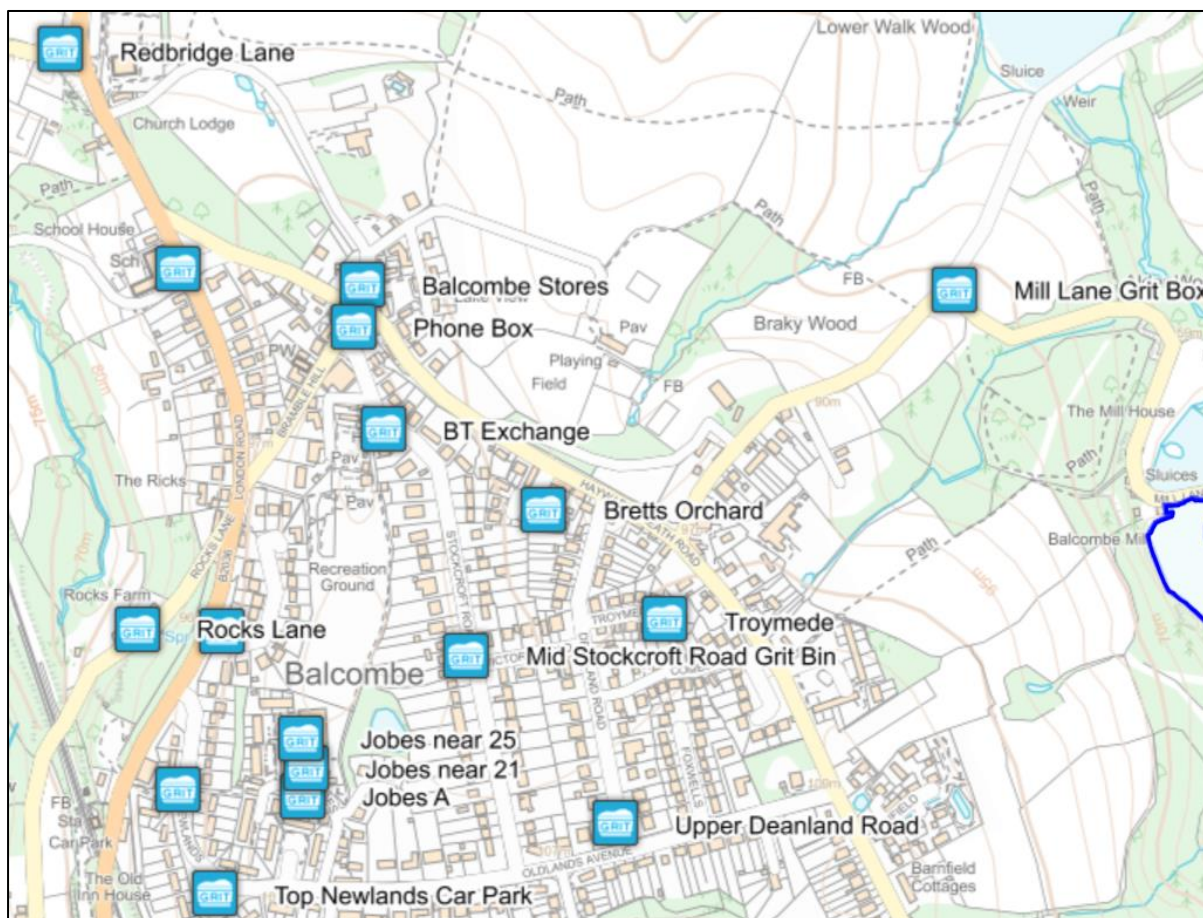
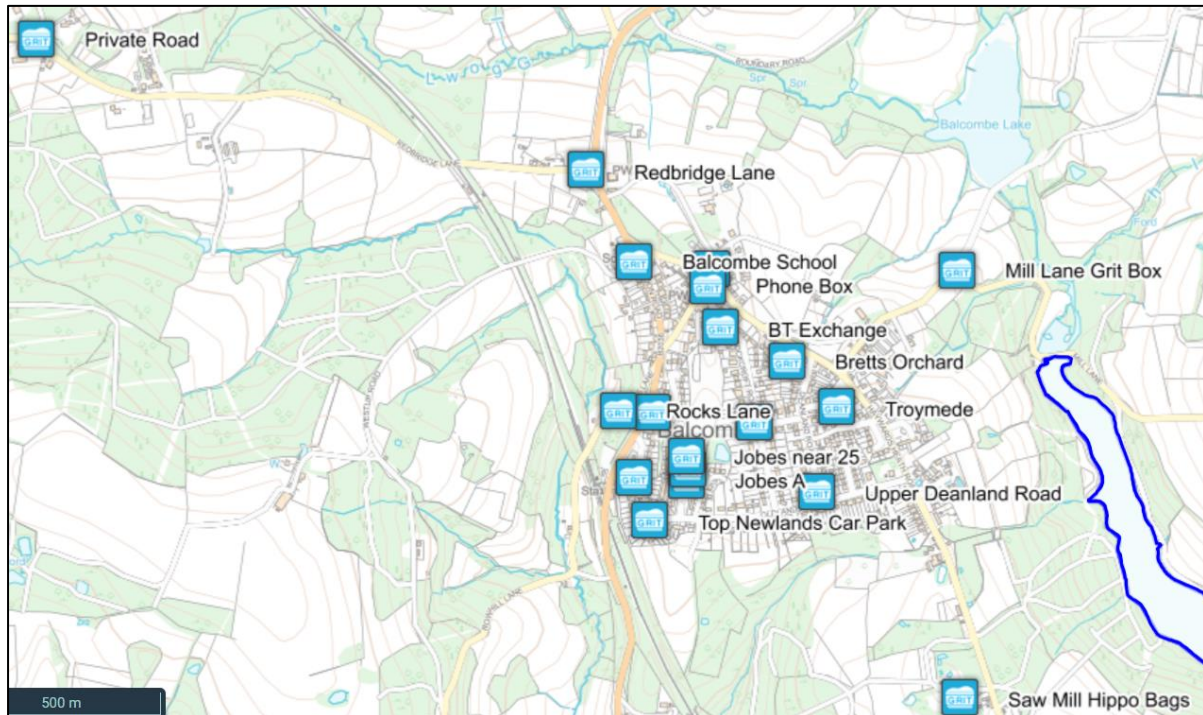
EFP GRITTING

EMAIL

01444 651651

admin@efpgritting.co.uk

SALT BIN LOCATION



Balcombe	Hippo Bags X 3	Balcombe Estate Sawmill/Woodyard, Balcombe
Balcombe	Grit Box	Bramble Hill next to the phone box outside Counters Cottage
Balcombe	Grit Box	Bottom of Bramble Mead at the junction with London Road
Balcombe	Grit Box	Outside Balcombe School on the London Road/ West up Farm junction
Balcombe	Grit Box	London Road/ Handcross Road (Redbridge Lane) Junction
Balcombe	Grit Box	Balcombe Stores, village centre, next to pub
Balcombe	Black Dustbin Style Grit Bin	Bretts Orchard (behind no.1 in front of Wilton Villas - the retirement homes at the back)
Balcombe	Grey Square Grit Box	Mill Lane on blind bend at the top of Woodward's Farm Drive
Balcombe	Grit Box	Oldlands Avenue opposite the junction with Stockcroft Road
Balcombe	Grit Box	Jobes opposite number 91 on the left as you turn the corner
Balcombe	Grit Box X 2	Jobes opposite No. 21 on top of bank and No. 25 at bottom of steps
Balcombe	Grit Box	Newlands top layby on brow of hill
Balcombe	Grit Box	Newlands near station twitten bottom layby
Balcombe	Grit Box	Troymede at the top in the turning point
Balcombe	Grit Box	Handcross Road (RedBridge Road) corner Private Road behind letterbox
Balcombe	Grit Box	*Stockcroft Road (Private) Opposite Victoria Road Junction
Balcombe	Grit Box	*Stockcroft Road (Private) Near Parish Room outside BT Exchange
Balcombe	Grit Box	*Deanland Road (Private) upper end of road
Balcombe	Grit Box	*Deanland Road (Private) lower end of private road.
Balcombe	Grit Box	Rocks Lane near Rocks Lane Farmhouse

*Private Roads

SALTING ADVICE

Government advice is that you can clear snow and ice from footways yourself. It's unlikely that you'll be sued or held responsible if someone is injured on a path or pavement if you've cleared it carefully.

When you clear snow and ice:

- do it early in the day - it's easier to move fresh, loose snow
- don't use water - it might refreeze and turn to black ice
- use salt if possible - it will melt the ice or snow and stop it from refreezing overnight
- you can use ash and sand if you don't have enough salt - it will provide grip underfoot
- pay extra attention when clearing steps and steep pathways - using more salt may help
- wear protective clothing and gloves

WSSCC recommends a spread rate of approximately 20 grams of salt/grit per metres square when salting. Although salt/grit can be spread effectively with shovels, care is required to ensure over salting does not occur. 20 grams is in fact a very small amount. You don't need a lot of salt to protect a footway. Use it sparingly. Over salting is damaging to the environment and a waste of a limited resource.



The white board in the above photo is one metre square and has 20 grams of salt spread on it. You will observe that you do not need a lot of grit/salt to protect the footways. Spread it evenly and your salt will last longer and cover a greater area.

WEST SUSSEX WELLBEING: KEEPING WARM AND ENERGY ADVICE

For further advice on keeping warm, please see the West Sussex Wellbeing page:

<https://www.westsussexwellbeing.org.uk/topics/healthy-home/keep-warm>

USEFUL NUMBERS/EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Balcombe Parish Clerk: Charlotte Jim - 01444 811833

West Sussex County Council: Reporting damage to the public highway
<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/make-an-enquiry-or-report-a-problem-with-a-road-or-pavement/>

Met Office: keep an eye on weather forecasts so you can stock up on food and prescription medicine. Forecasts up to 7 days ahead are available 24 hours a day from the Met Office on 0370 900 0100.

coldAlert: coldAlert is a free service for residents of Sussex providing cold weather alerts to vulnerable individuals. Once registered for the service you will receive a coldAlert when the normal winter conditions change and colder weather is forecast. This allows you to prepare by making sure that you have enough food and medicines in the cupboard and your home is adequately heated. You can register by calling 01273 484 337 or for more information visit: www.coldalert.info

For more information see the coldAlert leaflet:
https://www.westsussexwellbeing.org.uk/assets/uploads/documents/coldAlert_information_leaflet_1510590839.pdf

Power cuts: In case of a power cut call **105**

If you might need extra help and support during power cuts, contact the electricity power provider for your area:

UK Power Networks 0800 316 3105

<https://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/help-and-contact>

MORE SUPPORT AND INFORMATION

Citizens Advice can provide advice on energy bills, winter coat exchange and warm spaces. Call 0344 4771171 or <http://advicewestsussex.org.uk>

Age UK can provide support and advice on a range of topics for people aged 50 and over. Call 0800 169 6565 for details or to find your local drop-in point.

Families can visit the local **Mid Sussex Family Hub** at 51 Penn Crescent, Haywards Heath, RH16 3HP for further advice and support:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/find-a-family-hub/mid-sussex-family-hub/>

Mid Sussex District Council - <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/>

<https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support/>

Tel: 01444-458166

Email: enquiries@midsussex.gov.uk

Adress: Oaklands

Oaklands Road

Haywards Heath

West Sussex

RH16 1SS

Opening times

Monday to Thursday 08:45 - 17:15

Friday 08:45 - 16:15

Out of hours emergency

If you have an emergency that is out of hours then please call 01444-458166

Further information can be found on the following websites under the following headings:

- Government: [Help with heating your home](#)
- NHS: [Staying warm in winter](#)
- West Sussex: [West Sussex Affordable Energy](#)