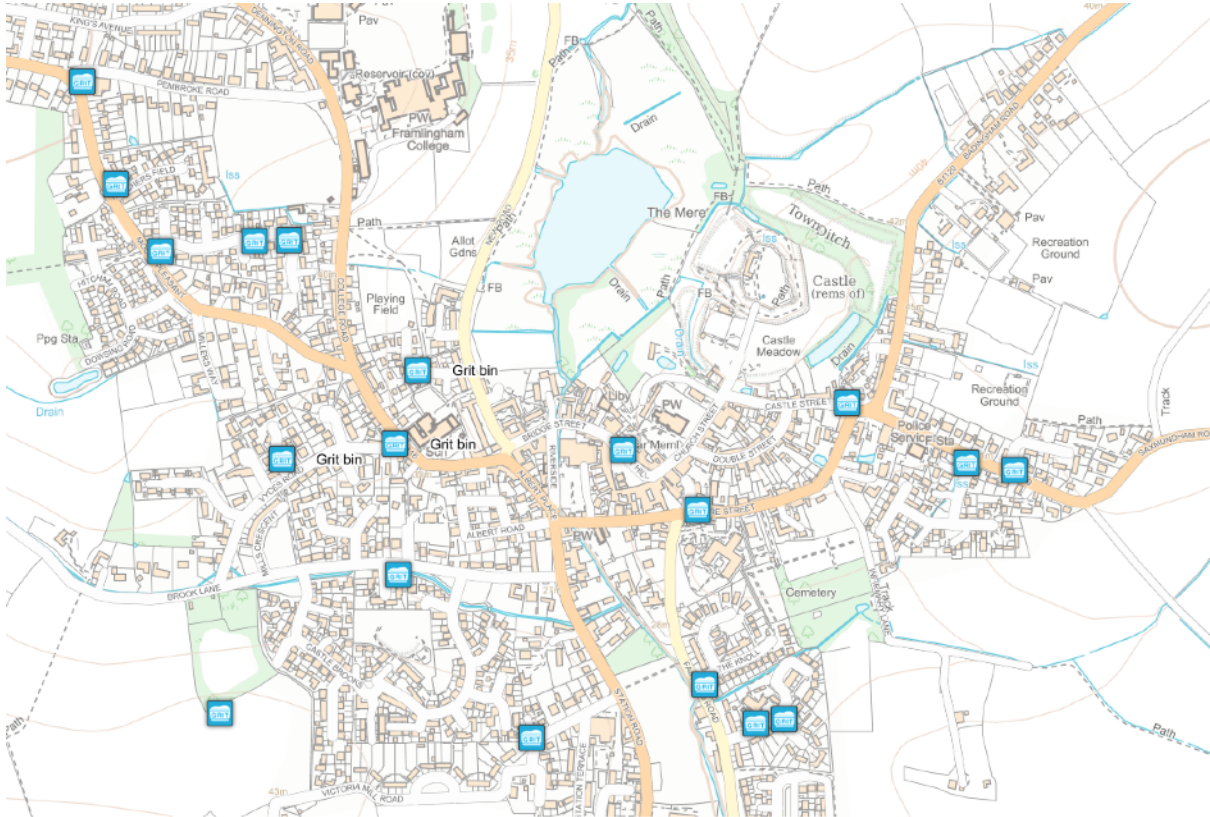


Advice & Safety for Volunteers spreading salt or grit or clearing snow from the Highway at times of severe weather

Map of Grit Bins around Framlingham supplied by the County Council.



If you feel there is a need for a grit bin near you please let Lydia, the Deputy Clerk know by phoning 01728 20183 or email dtc@framlingham.com

Safety & Visibility

- Wear a high visibility long sleeved vest or jacket. A vest can be worn over normal clothing. A jacket can be worn in place of a normal coat. High Viz jackets are available free from the Town Council office.
- Wear warm clothing and stout footwear which will provide good grip. Physical work will warm up the body so be prepared to shed layers but remember your body will quickly cool down once you cease work.
- Ensure that someone is aware that you have gone out to carry out this work and how long you intend to be there for. Remember also to advise that person of your return.
- Assess the location before commencing work. Do not attempt the work if you feel conditions would make this unsafe - For example if visibility is poor, traffic flows are too high or conditions are so severe that you would be placing yourself at risk of falling or extreme cold.
- Always be aware of approaching traffic. Remember the conditions may mean that traffic will have difficulty stopping. Try to work in pairs so that someone can observe the traffic.

Clearing Snow/Ice Advice

- Clear the snow or ice early in the day. It's easier to move fresh snow rather than hard snow that has packed together from people walking on it. So if possible, start removing the snow and ice in the morning. If you remove the top layer of snow in the morning, any sunshine

during the day will help melt any ice beneath. You can then cover the path with salt before nightfall to stop it refreezing overnight.

- DO NOT USE HOT WATER This will melt the snow, but will replace it with black ice, increasing the risk of injury.
- When shovelling snow use a shovel with the widest blade available. Make a line down the middle of your path first, so you have a safe surface to walk on. Then you can simply shovel the snow from the centre to the sides.
- Care should be taken to avoid blocking access points to properties driveway, paths especially at pedestrian crossings and drains. The cleared snow should be deposited in the verge or areas that are non-trafficked.
- Be careful - don't make the pathways more dangerous by causing them to refreeze. But don't be put off clearing paths because you're afraid you will be liable if someone gets injured. Remember, people walking on snow and ice have responsibility to be careful themselves.
- Pay extra attention to clear snow and ice from steps and steep pathways - you might need to use more salt on these areas.

Gritting Advice

- The grit is meant for use on pavements, not on the roads, although there are one or two corners on hills that can be done.
- Use the grit sparingly and thinly. Spread a small amount on a shovel and sprinkle gently. The material in the grit bins is a mixture of salt and grit. The salt will help to speed up the process of thawing snow and ice the grit is intended to provide grip on the surface of compacted snow or ice.
- When spreading on pavements it is better to remove most of the snow first and then spread the grit.
- If salt is not available from the grit bins, consider spreading some ordinary table salt on the area you have cleared to prevent any ice forming.
- The Town Council does not regularly monitor all the bins so it asks the Gritters to tell the Town Council if supplies are getting low. In most cases Suffolk County Council refill the bins but on two locations this is done by the estate management company. The Town Council keeps a few bags of salt which can be collected by registered gritters in emergencies.