

KPC 69 Grit Bin Policy

DETAILS OF POLICY	
Policy No	KPC 69
Policy Title	Grit Bin Policy
Committee/Working Party Responsible	Environment & Climate Change Committee
Last Reviewed	26th February 2024
Next Review Date	February 2028

The Policy

Killamarsh Parish Council provides grit bins for self-help by members of the public. The purpose of this policy is to provide criteria against which applications for the placement of grit bins can be assessed.

What is Grit?

Grit is another name for ‘rock salt’ and it helps keep roads and pavements safe by preventing them becoming icy; it works by lowering the temperature at which water freezes. It relies on pedestrian movement on pavements or the action of vehicle tyres to spread it over the road, but it can get too cold for the salt to work. Below -5 degrees centigrade the effectiveness of grit is reduced and pavements/roads may still freeze. Rain or snow can wash the grit away leaving the area prone to re-icing, so gritting ideally needs to take place after rain but before the water freezes.

Spreading the Grit

Safety is the most important factor: Only spread the grit when there are no vehicles or pedestrians about; Wear bright clothing to ensure that you can be seen easily; Don’t assume that the road or footway is safe just because you have spread the grit; Look after the environment – use the minimum grit necessary. A shovel full of grit will be sufficient for 20-30sq.m. For maximum effect the grit should be spread in tyre tracks or on the main foot way used.

Grit Bin Provision

Killamarsh Parish Council will consider provision of a new grit bin when a number of criteria are met. Key factors that are considered include:

- Highway gradient
- Highway safety
- Number of residents to benefit
- Distance to next grit bin
- Other factors, e.g., vulnerable residents; known water problems; junction problems

1. Grit bins shall only be considered where at least one of the criteria in List A and all the criteria in List B are met:

List A (application must meet 1 or more of these criteria)

- ✓ The gradient is greater than 1 in 10.
- ✓ A junction with a known history of accidents.
- ✓ Acceptable number of vulnerable residents.

List B (application must meet all criteria)

- ✓ Not on a Derbyshire County Council primary gritting route.

- ✓ Must be for use on the public highway (road and/or footpath).
- ✓ The location shall not obstruct the passage of pedestrians: a minimum of 1.5m clearance on the footway is required.
- ✓ The location shall not obstruct sight lines.
- ✓ The location is not, normally, within 200m of another grit bin location.
- ✓ The location is within the boundary of the public highway.

2. Where grit bins will not be provided

Killamarsh Parish Council will not provide grit bins in private areas or car parks or any other public or private property; such as schools, parks, hospitals, sheltered accommodation, or similar.

3. Location of grit bins

Grit bins will only be located where they can be easily accessed. Grit bins will be left in situ throughout the year. The location of grit bins will be recorded and made available on the Killamarsh Parish Council website.

4. Filling of grit bins

Grit bins shall be replenished at the start of each winter period and once more during the winter period if required, and on ad-hoc occasions at residents' request if resources permit.

5. Use of grit

The grit in the bin is purely for use on the public highway and footpaths. If the grit is used on private land, consideration will be given to removal of the bin.

6. Application for a new grit bin

This must be in writing or by email to the Parish Office. Applications will be considered at the next available meeting of the Environment & Climate Change Committee and the outcome will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.