FRODSHAM TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRITTING SCHEME WINTER 2026/27

The scheme is to grit the public pavements and footpaths near to where you live and we are asking for volunteers who wish to do this. FTC will arrange for supplies of grit to be delivered to volunteers' homes.

If you were a volunteer under the previous year's scheme and wish to continue to be a volunteer community gritter then you must complete a new application form to re-register with Frodsham Town Council for the current year's scheme.

How the scheme works:

- FTC will arrange for 1 to 2 bags of grit / salt to be delivered to registered volunteers up to four times through the winter (dependent on the severity of the weather)
- **The grit is only to be used on the public pavements and foot paths**
- **The grit is NOT to be used on your own footpaths, drives, public roads or private housing developments**
- If you run out of grit you should inform FTC and you will be included in the next available delivery

Extent of Liability:

FTC's liability only extends to the supply and delivery of the grit to volunteers registered addresses. Thereafter volunteers will spread the grit having regard to the Community Gritting Scheme guidelines and without the involvement of the Council.

FTC will have no responsibility for -

- When the grit is spread
- Any accidents or incidents that occur through volunteers failure to spread the grit
- Any accidents or incidents that may occur during the spreading of grit by volunteers

Scheme Guidelines:

The grit that you will be using is a mixture of crushed sand, stone and rock salt. When it is spread on a path, the crushed sand and stone provide extra grip for shoes and the rock salt dissolves and raises the salinity of surface water, which lowers the temperature at which it will freeze.

A surprisingly thin layer of grit is needed to achieve this effect (road gritters use as little as one tablespoon of grit per square metre). There is a limit to the amount of salt which water can absorb, which means that using a heavier layer of grit will not make the surface less likely to freeze.

Spreading grit will not clear heavy snow and if it is spread on snow that has been compacted, it may briefly melt a thin top layer, which will then refreeze and create a very slippery layer of ice. This means that it is very important to clear snow before you spread grit.

Using an appropriate shovel, start from the centre of the path, moving snow outward to the edge, taking care not to block driveways, dropped kerbs or drains. Even a small pile of snow can freeze into an icy bump that will cause problems.

Grit works best when spread onto an area where ice has already melted. You can use nature to your advantage, by clearing snow early and timing your gritting after the sun has had time to act on the icy path beneath, but before it sets and causes a drop in temperature that will start a new freeze.