

Saxilby Public Recreation Ground Briefing

Adverse Weather Policy

1. Background

The charity is responsible for the running of the recreation ground as an open space. It has considered the affects of adverse weather on the running of the field and note the following.

2. The open field

The field shall remain open in all weather unless a risk is identified which needs action, as noted below¹.

In addition to banned activities, certain activities may be curtailed if the field is wet and boggy. No vehicles are allowed on the field without the permission (prior or specific) of the charity.

3. Trees

If identified as dangerous the area will be cordoned off. If this affects public rights of way the affected council will also be informed.

The path from bridge Street to Highfield crosses the land and could be affected by trees on the Southern Boundary.

The path from Mill Lane to William Street borders the northern edge of the field and is subject to branch fall.

The access to the field from Bridge Street via the Scout Hut is subject to branch fall.

Tress are being maintained in line with the Arborist Report, so the risk is low.

4. Paths

Paths are not gritted nor cleared².

5. Car Park

The car park is open for field users. It is not normally gritted nor cleared. The Parish Council may grit and clear sections of it for their use. Three bags of salt and a hand spreader will be kept on site in the old toilets, for 'emergency' use.

Car Park Signage will inform the public that it is not gritted or cleared³.

6. Flooding

The charity inspects the field after heavy rain for water pooling and ponding. Field drainage is via clay drains.

¹ This is as per other open spaces around the village

² Paths are to the scout hut and across the free tennis court.

³ Sue H is sorting out the field rules and other signs to put up.

The Community Centre Soak Away (gutters) is to the South of the Centre and exhibits pooling in winter⁴.

In 2023 heavy rain resulted in flooding of the community centre via the sewage system. Water ran off the field and due to failure / overload of the village sewage pumping system ponded between the bowls field and the centre. This resulted in flooding of the changing rooms and water egress from the Eastern changing rooms sewage covers. A drain has been put in by the bar fire exit which should resolve this issue.

The charity will work with the council to consider changes to the field gradient across the Eastern Gated entrance to the field, to direct field run off to the South of the field (avoiding the issue noted above).

The main drain from the field, being from the NW corner of the community centre, is inspected annually along its length. Further inspections via manhole access are carried out every three months. These are situated on the accompanying plan⁵.

7. Events

Adverse weather is dealt with by the event organiser.

8. Other users

The charity provides car parking for the Parish Council and Sports Clubs under various agreements. However, it is not responsible for gritting or clearing the car park in adverse weather.

Sports Clubs are responsible for adverse weather on their leased or rented land.

⁴ This will need resolving at some time but could be integrated into a community centre water retention system.

⁵⁵ 2 Manholes by war memorial, manhole by NE corner of Bowls Field, School drain cover, Scouts drain cover on access to bridge street.