

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Planning & Environment Committee

Glyphosate Update

1. Glyphosate Information Request

1.1 Following on from questions raised at public question time, West Swindon Parish Council asked Streetsmart to confirm its position on the continued use of glyphosate for the purpose of weed control.

1.2 Mr Martin Hambidge, Swindon Borough Council Streetsmart has confirmed as follows:

I am not aware of any proposal by SBC to stop the use of glyphosate for the control of weed growth on the public highway as it is both cost effective and works well with all the current alternatives coming with various pros and cons although in the future this may change as the technology develops. The work that we undertake for the Parish Councils i.e. spraying around obstructions is for visual reasons and therefore does not need to be carried out - we are happy to take an instruction from the Parish Council on whether they wish to continue with this work.

Mr Hambidge has circulated additional information, see Appendix A attached.

2. Financial Implications

2.1 Possible implications. The Parish Council has budgeted for work within the existing Service Level Agreement to allow grounds maintenance work to include includes the occasional use of chemicals at the discretion of the contractor. The Parish Council could instruct Swindon Borough Council to remove annual spraying on the public highway in West Swindon from its existing plans and manage any additional unwanted growth via hand work through grounds maintenance generally.

3. Recommendations

3.1 For the Committee to review the statement from Mr Hambidge, Streetsmart and determine any action required.

Paula Harrison

Parish Manager