

Motion submitted by Councillor Tim Taylor

WEEDS

The failure by Cambridgeshire County Council to deal properly with weeds on Highways land, including gutters, footpaths, and verges has not merely led to unsightly weed overgrowth, but has led to significant additional problems in neighbouring land and properties with weed seed spreading far more widely than usual, including onto land owned by FDC. In an area with a great deal of farmland, we in Fenland need the County Council to deal effectively with weeds growing on Highways land.

The County Council has been forced to bow to pressure from across the County, and has reinstated preventative weed spraying using glyphosate weed killers twice a year.

However County Council is planning to spray its second application this year in October.

The correct application time for glyphosate is when the plant is actively growing. It is recommended the first dose is applied around April or May and the second dose in July or August for any volunteer or later growing weeds.

Applying glyphosate in October is irrational, wasteful, and pointless.

FDC therefore resolves to ask County Council to bring forward their planned date of application of the second dose of glyphosate in 2024 on all Highways land in Fenland.