

DITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Incorporating the Hamlet of Capton and the Manors of Bozomzeal and Coombe

Clerk's Report

Subject: Trial Project to Hand Clear Weeds from the sides of Roads in the Village

Date: 27/1/23

Author: A Thom (Clerk)

1. Background

The Parish Lengthsman role discussion meeting on 13/1/23 suggested a trial project to Hand Clear Weeds from the sides of Roads in the Village.

The meeting noted that weeds:

- Effect flow of water. Can slow or divert.
- Established weeds create their own habitat/compost for increasing size and amount of vegetation.
- Best time to clear weeds – approximately February, season dependent, before growth resumes.

It is proposed a project to clear weeds from lanes in village, and from the corner by Bramble Torre along the wall by the Mill pond. Not all weeds need to be removed. Remove large areas which are creating their own habitat.

Photos of examples

To remove:



See also Cllr Bond's separate pdf proposing areas which require work.

2. Hours

Weeds – 30 hours, trial in Feb/March 2023

3. Cost

£660. The Parish Lengthsman is willing to do this trial.

4. Responsible Authority

South Hams District Council is the responsible Authority.

I have spoken with an Officer who confirmed that the Waste & Recycling team is responsible for providing:

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Road Sweeper – Previously a 12 week rolling cycle. Drivers have been diverted to refuse and waste collection lorries. It is hoped to resume a regular service. I need to make further enquiries about when that might happen which I will do on 30/1.

SHDC did send a mechanical sweeper in December. It was not effective. Cllr Bond commented ‘... it’s simply not capable of clearing to the edge of the road because it has been so long since it was properly done. What was loose detritus is now a bed of weeds or a lot of heavy wet leaves. I think the only solution is a shovel and a barrow.’

Hand Weeding – This is also in the Waste & Recycling team’s remit. Delivery is resource dependent. Again, I need to make further enquiries to establish when that service might resume.

I have asked for the SHDC Localities Officer to visit Dittisham and assess the urgency of the work required.