

WEED SPRAYING OPTIONS 2019

Prior to 2018 STC appointed Cormac to execute the weed spraying of the kerbs/gutters in Saltash. The total distance to be covered was 55 Kilometres of road As this is just the length of the road, it needs to be doubled to cover both sides.. This excludes the Fore Street area which remains the responsibility of CCC.

The amounts paid by STC are as follows:

2016 first application £3292.55 plus vat (£3951.07 inc VAT)
2016 Second application £3292.55 plus vat (£3951.07 inc VAT)
2017 March application £3337.56 plus vat (£4005.07 inc VAT)

In 2018 STC agreed to sending two Wardens on a suitable training course and to purchase weed spraying equipment. The two wardens attended the training course 17 – 19th April 2018. This was after the spraying season had begun. The spraying equipment was also purchased. The total cost of the training and equipment was £1428.70.

The weed spraying equipment purchased was of the NOMIX variety which is the most expensive. If STC were to continue weed spraying, instead purchasing the on-site mixing weed killer, PREMIX and equipment, would pay for itself over one year's spraying cycle.

Option 1.

To continue using the present equipment, and having spoken to the manufacturer, one cycle of weed killer would cost £3692 for the required amount.

The labour costs would be: -

2 Wardens @ 6 hours per day each over 7 days = 84 hours @ £14.33 per hour = £1203.72

Total Cost using existing equipment: NO MIX Weed Killer £3692

Labour	<u>£1202.72</u>
Total	£ 4895.72 per application

Option 2.

If the PREMIX method and equipment was employed the costs would be:

PREMIX Weed Killer and two back packs £994

Labour £1302.72

Total £2296.72 per 1st application

2nd and subsequent applications would be less £90, as we would already have the back packs.

STC currently has 4 Wardens licenced to conduct weed spraying, the two cemetery wardens Mark and Keith, and two Town and Waterfront Wardens Joe and Jason.

It is not a case of allotting 84 consecutive hours to complete the spraying as there are certain regulations regarding weed spraying in public places, such as:

Must be below 12 degrees C.

Must not be sunny.

Must not be windy.

Must not be raining.

Option 3

STC could consider hiring a Gator road legal weed spraying buggy at a weekly cost of £375. This is a single person operation and would cut the labour cost by approx. 50%, and give more flexibility as to the timing of spraying.

PREMIX Weed Killer (back packs not req)	£904
Labour	£650
Gator Hire	<u>£375</u>
Total	£1929 per application

The draw back to the Gator hire option is that we would have to collect and return the vehicle from Preston. At the present time, Gator Hire in Preston is the only location that hires the complete vehicle/spray package. I am still seeking suppliers nearer to Saltash.

Jeff Diamond