

To receive and consider a non-herbicide weed control report and any associated expenditure

At December's Services Committee Meeting it was resolved to discontinue the use herbicides for the control of weeds, and that the SDD will remove weeds mechanically and culturally at any highlighted problem areas.

For the SDD to be efficient and productive removing weeds the correct equipment will be required so that we operate productively and efficiently

With this in mind SDM and ASDM have attended a Demo Day in mid-January, where we looked at a range of equipment that is available to facilitate this work. The equipment looked at included thermal heat (can be used on Borders as well as hard surfaces), pedestrian power unit that takes various attachments including weed removal brushes, sweeper, mowers and a number of others (HAVS readings are extremely low allowing all day use), and brushes that use strimmers for a power unit (high HAVS meter readings providing limited use of approximately 10 – 15 minutes per day).

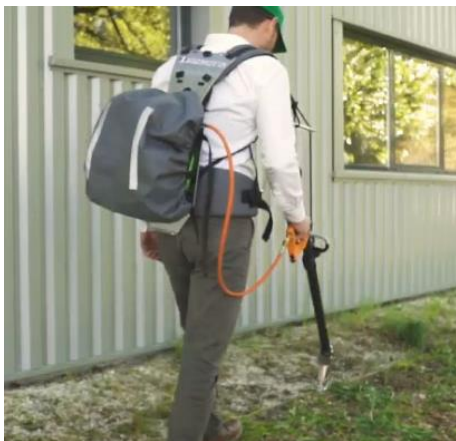
Following on from the demo day, SDM arranged a further demonstration with the supplier at the end of January of the pedestrian power unit with a mowing head as we were not able to see this in action at the Demo Day.

Quotations have been requested for the machinery that we feel will enable the SDD team to undertake the weed removal & control work productively, along with adding to our abilities to deliver a range of maintenance tasks in other areas.

Equipment prices:

1. NEW RipaGreen Mobile Kit - Thermal Heat lance and back pack priced at £1,950 + VAT

RipaGreen Mobile Kit



2. NEW RipaGreen Easy Kit - Thermal Heat lance, back pack and trolley kit priced at £2,300 + VAT

3. NEW Kersten UBS Hydro 2 PTO 2 wheeled Tractor c/w front sweeper attachment and weedbrush attachment priced at £14,250 + VAT

Sweeper attachment on 2 wheeled tractor



Weed brush attachment on 2 wheeled tractor



4. NEW Kersten TSM900 flail mower attachment to fit UBS power unit priced at £1,895 + VAT

Flail mower attachment for 2 wheel tractor



5. USED Kersten UBS 14 PTO 2 wheeled Tractor c/w front sweeper attachment and weedbrush attachment priced at £7,650 + VAT

6. NEW WeedGo Pro weed removal brush to fit strimmer priced at £445 + VAT

WeedGo Pro on Stihl Strimmer



The 2 wheeled tractor unit is extremely flexible with tasks, depending on which attachment is fitted. The attachments identified will enable us to undertake the weed removal efficiently and productively, around Saltash, but also enable the increase in quality of works to our existing site portfolio. The addition of the flail mower attachment will be beneficial as it will make pathway clearance works, and Cemetery mowing work more productive. We will then be able to sell some of the other equipment currently not greatly used as it will have become surplus to requirements.

It is recommended that:

1. **STC purchases no.1, no.4 and no.5 (if still available) and no.6 as listed above.**

2. **At a total cost of £11,940 + VAT split equally at £5,970 + VAT between:**
 - **BA EMF 6071 EMF Replace Machinery and Equipment**
 - **Services EMF 6578 Services EMF Equipment and Vehicles**

Finance:

Budget: 6071 **BA EMF** Replace Machinery and Equipment
Available Budget: £14,967 for the years 2021-2022

Budget: 6578 **Services EMF** Equipment and Vehicles
Available Budget: £16,734 for the year 2021-22

Available Budget: an additional £20,000 precept budget for the year 2022-23

End of Report
Service Delivery Manager