

County Council – 17th October 2023

Item 5 – Petitions

Text of the petition titled ‘Reintroduce weedkilling’ containing 1,797 signatures

Petition Overview:

Please help by signing this petition to reverse the Liberal Democrat, Labour and Independents (the Joint Administration) decision to only kill common weeds, when they become injurious to health. We want them to agree to reintroduce the weedkilling regime they had before, using approved chemicals.

We the undersigned believe the state of the roads, paths and cycleways in Cambridgeshire are in a shocking state and unacceptable condition, due to this administration’s change to the weeding policy. Active travel is discouraged due to the state of these roads, cycle ways and foot paths. Any assumed savings they thought the council would make will be eaten up by higher repair bills in the future. Roadside gully’s and drains will become blocked more often, this will undoubtedly increase the likelihood of flooding. The sight of rapid decay in our Town and village centres is unacceptable, as well as the state of the highways between settlements, these all look more appropriate in a post apocalypse movie, than a first world country. A policy where common weeds will only be removed when they become injurious is ridiculous (i.e a trip hazard as an example). The new bureaucracy imposed, involved the public reporting those weeds, CCC tasking an inspector to examine those weeds (up to 14 days later) then to decide whether to instruct a contractor or not, is ludicrous in the extreme. We ask for immediate action to return to a pro-active weedkilling regime.

Please help by signing below, we need 3,000 signatures from people who live in Cambridgeshire before they will consider this at full Council.