Weed Management what are we trying to achieve?

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The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd



Outline



Development of Strategy



Progress so far



Key challenges



Lessons learned

Plants want to grow!



Development of Strategy

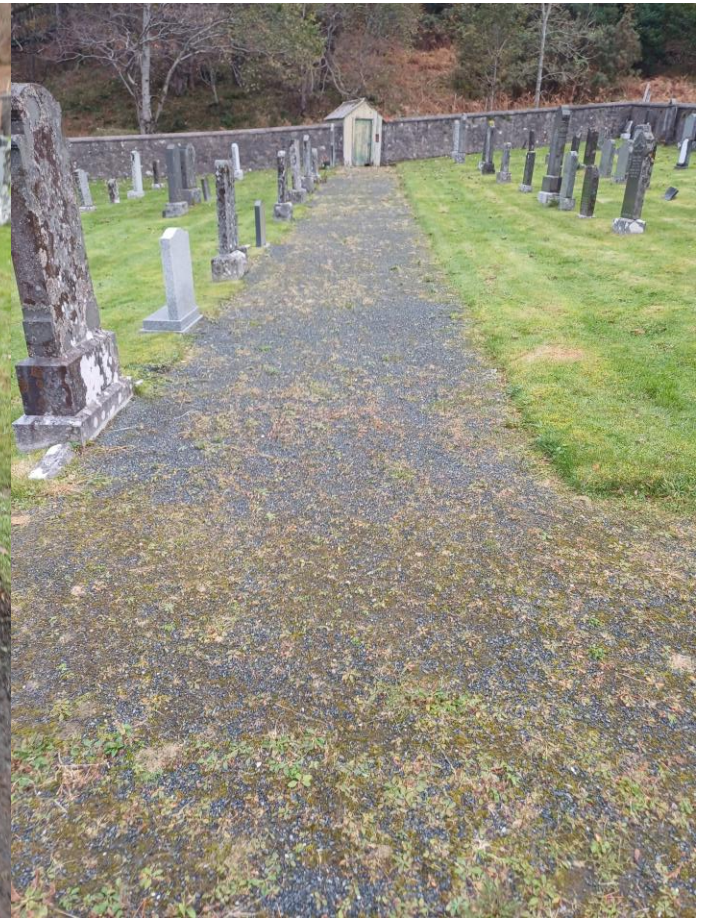
- Reduction in workforce grounds, street sweeping and roads,
- Members agree to partial ban of glyphosate June 2019
- Lockdown March 2020
- Trials and demonstrations of potential alternative chemicals and methods
- Amenity Forum Meeting Edinburgh May 2023
- Working Group set up Sept 2023
- HSE visit Sept 2024
- National Action Plan March 2025
- Integrated weed management conference in Birmingham June 2025/ Parks for London Weed Management Templates publication.

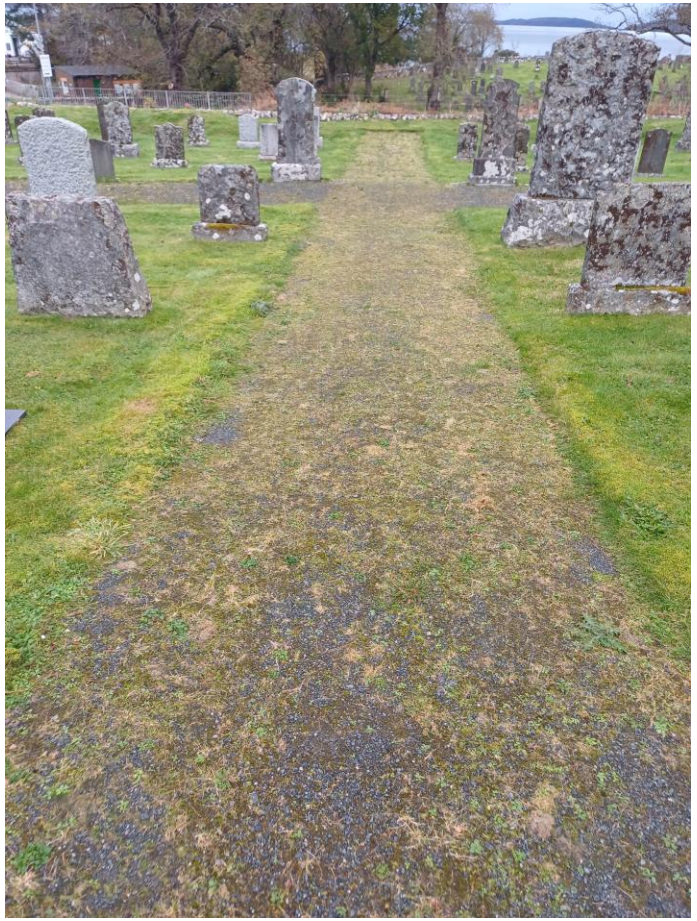
What to use when makes a difference



Quarry dust path cleared and subsequent moss and young weeds treated with Pelargonic Acid











Progress so far

- Integrated Weed Control Strategy and Action Plan May 26
- 2 x Kersten UBS Hydro 16 A Two wheeled tractors and Weed Brushes purchased
- More discussion and buy in from colleagues
- Re-organisation bringing services together.



Key challenges

- Removal of weeds requires very abrasive weed brushes that show damage to infrastructure immediately.

- Large amounts of “soil” to be removed/disposed of.

- Investment needed in infrastructure, equipment, training and additional labour.

- Waiting on Glyphosate decision delaying some investments.



Lessons learned

- Glyphosate, cheap, small quantity required, low hazard rating
- Allow time to stop and think, what are we trying to achieve?
- Not one tool
- Advice from a Amenity Specialist BASIS reg advisor
- Buy in from peers, managers and operatives essential

- FOI requests don’t stop

Repeated spraying selects moss and lack of brushing causes build up of soil.

Old status quo wasn’t working!

Integrated approach, more investment in people

Biodiversity..





Awareness of Integrated Weed Management

It has never been more important to take a more integrated approach to weed management, find out why with our dedicated training with assessment.



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Any questions?

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