

Herbicide Free Liskeard Questionnaire Responses 16Oct2021

Background

A door to door survey was conducted along Church Street and Church Street South so that residents could give their views on the Herbicide Free Liskeard trial. The trial had been running for 6 months of the 12 month trial duration.

Summary

Of the 50 households in the trial area that were sampled, 20 residents answered the door and 15 chose to take part in the questionnaire.

The results would suggest further investment could be made in informing residents of the trial and the benefits of not using herbicides.

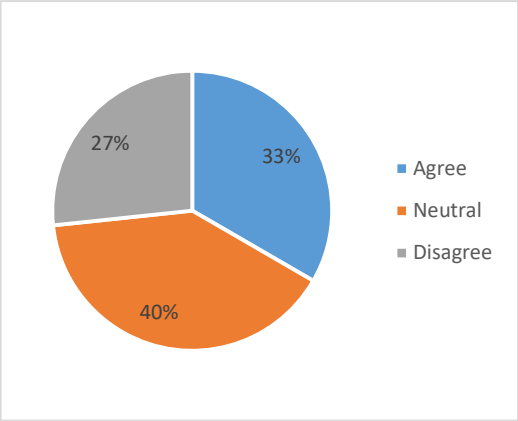
The majority of residents have reacted positively to the trial and 87% do not want to have herbicides used on their streets. 27% of residents think the street looks worse from not using herbicides.

All residents would tolerate some weeds on their street which would allow the Town Council to explore alternatives to blanket spraying the streets with herbicide. An alternative might be providing street sweepers with an environmentally friendly means of controlling the most obstructive/damaging weeds whilst leaving the harmless growth.

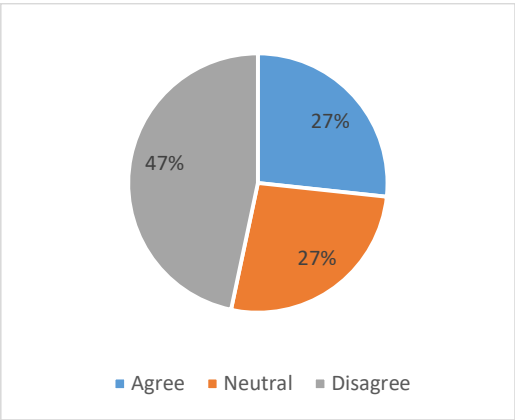
60% of residents would assist with managing weeds in their street. Liskeard Town Council could look into engaging with residents to control weeds as an alternative to blanket use of herbicides.

Results of Residents Responses to Statements in Questionnaire

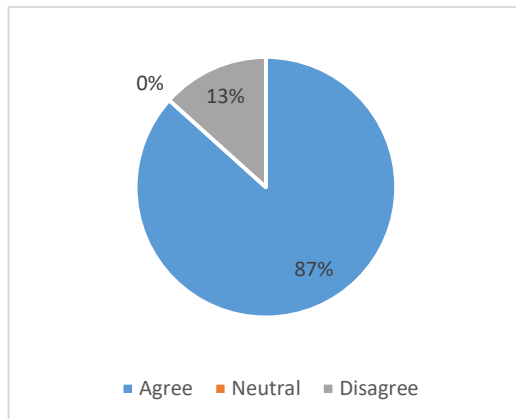
1. Herbicide Free Liskeard trial has made me more aware of the harm herbicides cause to people and the environment



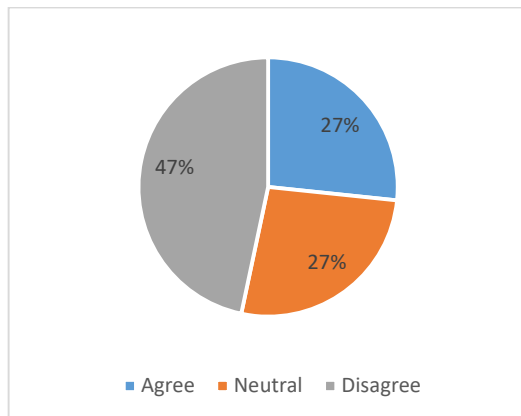
2. Weeds are natural and are a benefit to the street



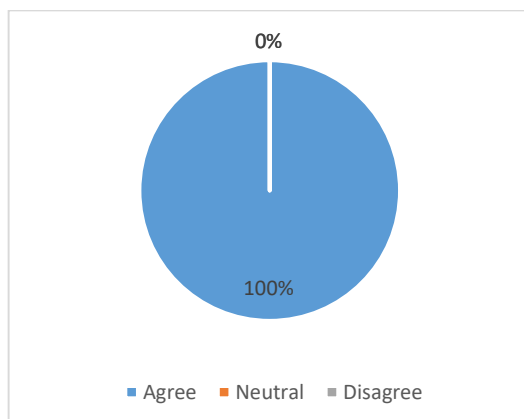
3. I prefer to live in a town that does not use herbicides



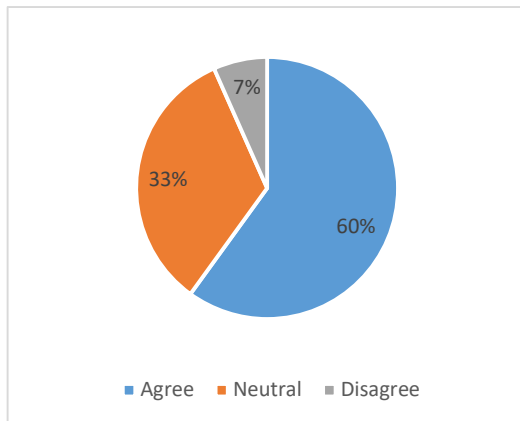
4. Going herbicide free has had a negative influence on my street



5. Light touch management of weeds (only removing obstructive or damaging plants) is acceptable to me



6. I am prepared to deal with the weeds on the street where I live



7. Comments

- We harm our plants at our peril. I am all for anything that is kind to the planet.
- Carry on with the good work. I understand the harm herbicides do when they wash into the environment.
- The trial has brought up some conflict about the management of the plants. I do not think the street looks much worse except when a neighbour sprayed weed killer.
- The street sweeper has a bottle of spray and sprays something on weeds. Not seen this happen recently. Disagrees that leaving grass and wild flowers is disrespectful. Need more education on whose job it is to manage plants.
- Herbicide free town is a fantastic idea but poor management of plants gives bad impression. Can look neglected. Needs more maintenance without herbicide.
- Ivy overhanging church wall needs addressing.
- Herbicide should only be used in moderation
- Good to go herbicide free but should also employ people to remove weeds.
- Nice to see verges not cut.