

St John in the Wilderness_ Planning Application Number 67711

Method Statement for the eradication of Himalayan Balsam and Monbretia

Proposed Solution_Mechanical control

Given the impact to the environment of glyphosate chemicals we are advised to manage this small infestation manually.

Plants will be controlled / removed by mechanical pulling / digging, as the plants are shallow rooted. The full extent of both the flagged area and the lawns will be removed and re-laid. As part of this process, the offending plants and in the case of Monbrieta, the surrounding soil, will be pulled / dug out and disposed of at the authorised landfill site managed by Viridor Waste Management Ltd, Pilsworth.

HIMALAYAN BALSAM

The seedbank can last for approximately 18 months, so two years' manual control should eradicate the plant from the site.

Any further reintroduction will be mechanically managed on a seasonal basis. The plant is easy to cut before flowering, either by hand or machine, as there is adequate access. Plants will be cut to ground level before the end of June and before flowering, later cutting risks spreading viable seeds that can germinate next growing season. Plants will be cut very close to the lowest nodes, near ground level. Regular mowing will also control plants even if the cutting level is above the lowest node, provided the frequency is sufficient to prevent the formation of flowers and seeds.

<https://www.phlorum.com/himalayan-balsam/>

MONBRIETA

Physical removal requires the excavation of the plants and also the surrounding soils which will contain the corms released by the plant. If the surrounding soils are not removed corms located within the soil will repopulate the area with further Montbretia plants.

<https://www.environetuk.com/montbretia-removal>