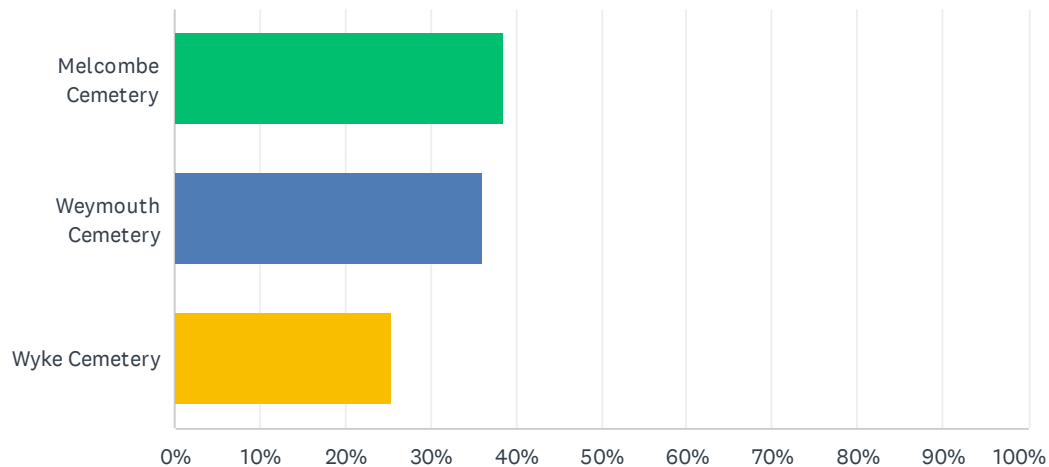


Q1 If you regularly visit one of our cemeteries please select which one. The designated area in each cemetery where the grass is left longer / maintained using the three methods outlined above is shown below. To view the maps in a larger format, visit the website <https://www.weymouthtowncouncil.gov.uk/news/cemeteries-consultation-launches/>

Answered: 75 Skipped: 122

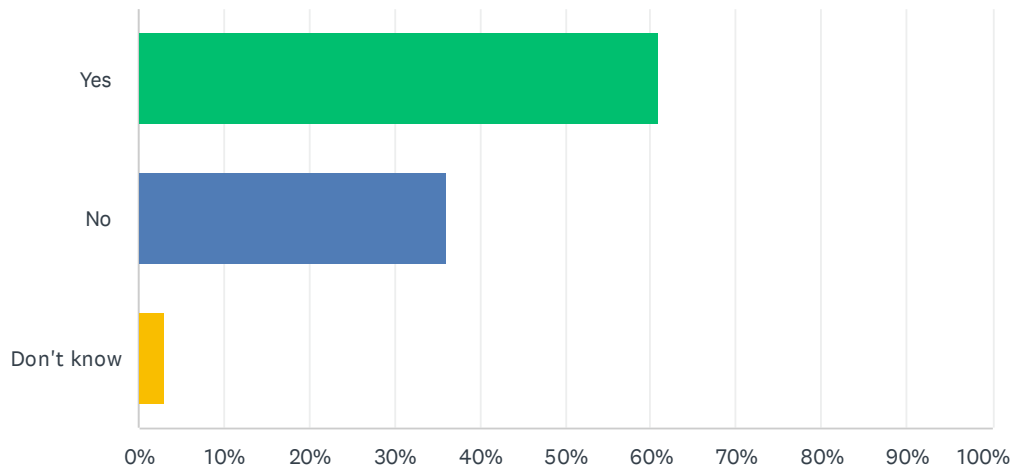


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Melcombe Cemetery	38.67% 29
Weymouth Cemetery	36.00% 27
Wyke Cemetery	25.33% 19
TOTAL	75

Q2 Should Weymouth Town Council continue to maintain three different grass lengths in each cemetery?

Answered: 197 Skipped: 0

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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	60.91%	120
No	36.04%	71
Don't know	3.05%	6
TOTAL		197

Q3 Please tell us why in the comment box below.

Answered: 197 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	A cemetery is a place of rest and should be beautiful neat and tidy, not let go to look like jungles, there are enough places that can be left to the wildlife. What if someone falls or brake an ankle because they don't see the edge of the gravestone round the grave because of the long grass.	11/4/2024 3:20 PM
2	I would like to see the graveyards kept up to standards, clean and tidy and not overgrown as i feel if they are overgrown and left for the wildlife there will be more accidents people can fall more easily as the gravestone kerbs could become buried by longer grass. I am all for the wildlife having somewhere to vegetate and hibernate but not at the cost of someone's health when visiting a grave to pay their respects to loved ones and potentially causing themselves harm.	11/4/2024 3:17 PM
3	Supporting bio diversity is our responsibility to ensure species continue into the future - respect for those who remain in the cemeteries means we need to keep their environment in a tidy state.	11/4/2024 3:11 PM
4	Because it is a waste of time cemetery should be maintained without surveying.	11/4/2024 3:08 PM
5	The entire cemetery should be regularly cut at short length	10/28/2024 12:58 PM
6	This is so important in supporting our local wildlife. If suitable areas could be extended for long grass this would be good, if area is still taken care of to respect loved ones visiting experience.	10/28/2024 11:30 AM
7	Length '1' is often ridiculous and far too long. Interpretation 2 is often longer than 'medium'	10/28/2024 11:21 AM
8	Hello :) I've some feedback to give on the cemetery's (not Wyke though). It's not regarding grass lengths, but more importantly about dog walkers. Can it please be taken more seriously	10/28/2024 10:26 AM

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about dogs being walked off lead in the cemetery's! This needs to be stopped. It's very disrespectful, and dogs foul often without it being cleaned up. Thank you

9	The cemeteries provide much needed areas for nature and are peaceful and lovely with wild flowers.	10/27/2024 11:53 PM
10	My dispute is with Fordington memorial garden where our daughter is buried. In Dorchester. I sent an email to a lady called Julie who over sees the maintenance of the cemeteries in Dorchester. I explained that it was disrespectful to not only families who have lost their dearly beloved relatives but also to those who fought on the frontline and sacrificed their lives for us ! The grass is overgrown covering headstones and pathways this is extremely upsetting to those who visit our loved ones place of rest. The hedgerows and trees are overgrown and hanging so low that this also makes it difficult to visit graves. The reply from Julie , was that this cemetery is a place off wildlife and wildflowers! I explained that this cemetery along with any other cemetery should not be used for wildlife and wildflowers and this is a place for people to pay their respects to loved ones and to be able to walk through the cemetery without worrying about being hit by overgrown tress and being scratched by overgrown Berry bushes ! Also with the grass being knee hight it is an health and safety issue as you cannot see where you are walking or what you are walking on (over grown graves) ! All cemeteries should be kept pristine out of respect to those that we have lost and to those who lost their lives during the war to enable us to live our lives . Cemeteries should be easy access at all times and unfortunately this is not the case and makes it difficult for elderly relatives and friends to also pay their respects to loved ones. There should be other areas used for wildlife and wildflowers not cemeteries! Surely that should be common sense ?!	10/27/2024 2:10 PM
11	when the grass is not cut for people like me it is a risk due to havining to use a crutch and very limited sight. As a result there have been times i have struggled to visit to lay flowers.	10/27/2024 12:20 PM
12	Because it needs to be kept up as it's disrespectful to the people that are buried here. The up keep is easier when it's not as long. I looks derelict and encourages antisocial behaviour which happened the other day.	10/27/2024 11:25 AM
13	I believe it's not necessary to cut the grass in areas that are not visited regularly. Only around paths and entrances. Let the wildlife have a home	10/26/2024 8:18 PM
14	The graveyard looks a shameful mess. There are no wild flowers to attract the bees, just a jungle. I have more bees in my small garden, which is probably at least one hundredth of the size, because I plant flower that attract bees. I don't think the council care; the war graves are respectfully kept tidy, which makes the rest of the jungle look even worse and disrespectful. Is it just a money saving exercise? Perhaps if the top executives were paid less, I am told their wages are very high, you could afford to get it done.	10/26/2024 9:40 AM
15	It's made a difference to the insect and bird life in the area.	10/25/2024 8:19 PM
16	I have a family grave and could not even see the grave when I visited in the summer. Certainly did not see anyone enjoying solace and tranquility only people taking a short cut through or walking their dogs!!	10/25/2024 6:59 PM
17	Short grass is bad for biodiversity	10/25/2024 4:48 PM
18	There is a big difference between keeping grass long for flowers to grow and letting weeds eg brambles grow uncheckedsince change in policy the rapid growth of brambles has increased no end .. they soon smother everything around and become virtually impossible to eradicate ... thus defeating the original purpose ...	10/25/2024 2:56 PM
19	I agree that certain areas may be left to grow to help create a wild flower meadow but all other areas to be cut short especially around individual graves.	10/25/2024 2:01 PM
20	Very much support the Council's approach. Nature is in rapid decline and pollinators are really struggling. We need as much wildflower meadow as possible on publicly-owned and/or managed land. It's not messy, it's nature and it's beautiful.	10/25/2024 12:34 PM
21	Adapting to each location	10/25/2024 6:49 AM
22	If the grass is too long, the condition of the graves cannot be viewed, the stone turns green and is hard to clean. It is disrespectful to the deceased and their families. There are plenty more places around Weymouth where this neglect would be less upsetting.	10/24/2024 10:23 PM
23	I think it is very important to provide good, safe habitat for insects and small mammals as they	10/24/2024 3:58 PM

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are presently under great stress.

24	Many of the graves are so old that there are no family members left to tend them, so memorials and surrounds deteriorate. I would like to see these removed and the areaa turned into park land with trees and shrubs. Significant monuments (If any) should be retained. Later graves should be kept and the grass maintained as above. A pictorial image should be kept before removal and a plan showing the grave location be available for reference	10/23/2024 8:42 PM
25	To encourage biodiversity	10/23/2024 12:58 PM
26	It looks beautiful through the seasons, supports wildlife adds natural beauty to a peaceful place	10/23/2024 12:18 PM
27	Short grass for access paths, the remainder should be left long	10/23/2024 10:56 AM
28	Wildlife diversity is important.	10/23/2024 10:12 AM
29	Longer grass provides a habitat for butterflies. The summer of 2024 was a bad year for them. It was such a joy to see the Ringlet and Common Blue butterflies as I walked through Weymouth Cemetery. Think of these butterflies as a gift from God. We have a duty to conserve such beautiful creatures. I can understand that people who are used to the grass being mown neatly see long grass as being 'messy'. Perhaps a little money could be spent on posters or articles in the press explaining about the butterflies. Please continue with the re-wilding.	10/23/2024 9:41 AM
30	I love the wild areas, it's great for nature	10/23/2024 9:01 AM
31	To support the environmental impact	10/23/2024 7:33 AM
32	All cemeteries should be kept with the grass level being low to enable people to see what they are walking on, as the number of people who let their dogs defecate there is disgusting, particularly in the Melcombe Regis Cemetery.	10/22/2024 5:37 PM
33	I feel main pathways should be maintained short. Long grass round the perimeter is fine, but I feel it is disrespectful to the spirits of the departed to let their graves disappear under a sea of vegetation. They (or their families) paid money in good faith to have a permanent memorial in place. They should be visible.	10/22/2024 3:10 PM
34	I like it being left longer. But I prefer a more open feel at Melcombe along the path. Could the area used be a tad smaller. Thanks for keeping it nice	10/22/2024 1:14 PM
35	The grass should be maintained at short and medium length. Fallen-over long wet grass will is not at all conducive to peaceful reflection at the graveside; it smacks of dis-respect to me. The war graves commission help with war grave maintenance (as I witnessed at Tophill on Portland) and our son is buried in a respectably cut graveyard at St Andrews in Preston, all done by volunteers. Does WTC not encourage people to help in Council cemeteries?	10/22/2024 12:52 PM
36	All areas should be kept in pristine condition.	10/22/2024 12:25 PM
37	It looks untidy and encourages dog walkers not to pick up after their animals.	10/22/2024 11:54 AM
38	It is much more bio diverse and natural looking but still maintaining a good level of management for open spaces.	10/22/2024 11:01 AM
39	To show respect.	10/22/2024 10:57 AM
40	Wyke cemetery is not kept in good condition. The older graves have trees growing out of them, they are in disrepair. When the grass is trimmed it is just left to sit there and go brown and still looks a mess. The pathway at the side of the cemetery was so overgrown this summer that it was impossible to use or just get stung by nettles. It's very sad to see the condition of the cemetery. The newer graves are okay but again, strimmed and just left in a mess. My parents are buried in Crawley and the cemetery is immaculate. Never see grass trimmings anywhere.	10/22/2024 10:29 AM
41	Biodiversity is crucial so it must be enabled and encouraged wherever possible.	10/22/2024 8:55 AM
42	The more space for nature the better, and it cuts down on what grass cutting is needed to be done. I agree that recent grave areas where relatives visit are kept mown, for access, but that the 'view' is a natural view.	10/22/2024 8:34 AM
43	Important for biodiversity	10/22/2024 7:38 AM
44	Wildflowers are always pleasing to see and create a relaxing atmosphere. These attract so	10/22/2024 6:36 AM

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many butterflies and insects.

45	I am all for democracy but with so many other pressing issues it is unclear why time is being used on this particular survey. Nature is in crisis! There is an abundant amount of evidence that demonstrates that biodiversity is in steep decline. The Town Council is acting responsibly in taking advice and adopting best practice as advocated by those with expertise - ie managing the grass lengths in cemeteries to benefit many species and ultimately us - we all need bees and pollinators for food production. I cannot imagine that the residents of the cemeteries are objecting to the length of the grass and I am sure many of them would support encouraging nature back. A little more unlearning is needed for the good of the long grass, the bees and future generations. Thank you for letting me have my say.	10/21/2024 9:54 PM
46	This is a cemetery where it is so difficult to access family graves due to the length of the grass. The long grass makes visiting family very difficult especially when you have mobility issues. Every grave should be accessible and every family should be able to pay their respects to their loved ones. Also, when grass is cut it should not be left covering graves as was done this spring and autumn as this is so disrespectful. There are plenty of wildlife and grass areas surrounding Wyke cemetery so there is no reason for this not to be an accessible, tidy and cared for cemetery. This is the final resting place of so many and those laid to rest at Wyke (and in the other local cemeteries) should be shown the respect they deserve.	10/21/2024 7:12 PM
47	It's important we maintain and increase habitats for pollinators and other organisms. Cemetery management provide an important tool to achieve this in our open spaces. I assume that cut-and-collect will gradually increase the number of native wildflowers as fertility of the soil declines as well as achieving cost savings for the council. We need more of this across Weymouth. What a joy it would be to sit and enjoy the quiet of the local cemeteries while remembering loved ones and appreciating the bees and butterflies flying through wildflowers.	10/21/2024 3:02 PM
48	This policy has led to a great increase in wild flowers and butterflies. This is good for my mental health and the environment. I have family buried here and see no disrespect in having long grass.	10/20/2024 5:35 PM
49	It's nice to walk around graveyards like meadows covered in flowers and insects, great for mental health and especially as I can't imagine many visitors to the parts of the graveyard suggested to upkeep graves, sad but true due to age of the burials. The main visitors and walkers and dog walkers who benefit greatly in the meadow looks and having more pollinators is only a good thing for all of us.	10/20/2024 5:12 PM
50	The UK is one of the most nature depleted countries in Europe. All opportunities that public authorities have to help nature must be taken. There is more to do to educate the public about the necessity to create space for nature and richer biodiversity. We must move on from the obsession with Victorian concepts of 'neatness' which leaves nature so badly and unnecessarily depleted. It is for the greater good and the future of the planet. I applaud this initiative and support it fully.	10/19/2024 10:05 PM
51	I regularly visit my grandad who was recently buried there and with a physical disability, it can be hard to walk through the longer grass to access his grave. With the grass longer it would make it difficult to access the cemetery, to walk to his grave and then be able to lay my flowers. Perhaps there are areas where graves are not visited like the older parts of the cemetery where the grass could be left longer, but those areas where graves are regularly visited the grass should be shorter. Also when the grass is cut it is left on the ground and my feet and legs are covered with cut grass and I have at times tripped when walking through the uncut and cut grass. I feel the council need to think about accessibility and even though encouraging pollinators is commendable there may be other areas of the cemetery that could be used.	10/19/2024 9:15 PM
52	It promotes a feeling of serenity and hope around the idea of death. It calms you by helping you to realise that even when you lose someone, you are surrounded by life.	10/19/2024 8:00 PM
53	It's so beautiful when left longer, we've seen so many insects and wildlife. When we visit in the evening there are bats and deer. It's very soothing in such a built up area.	10/19/2024 7:21 PM
54	It's untidy and makes graves look a mess and neglected	10/19/2024 6:34 PM
55	I think leaving it natural is great. I walk in Melcombe or Weymouth cemetery every day, and I love the natural, peaceful atmosphere. I walk in Wyke cemetery once a month or so, and again find it an oasis of natural calm. We need to be supporting biodiversity and allowing nature to	10/19/2024 12:24 PM

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flourish. I've heard a lot of people complaining but I don't get it. They don't speak for me, please continue with this important project.

56	It looks messy and it's not nice for families visiting loved ones. It's also disgusting that we have to pay to water the plants. The area should be maintained to a good standard	10/19/2024 12:09 PM
57	It's good for insects and wildlife. Also allows more time to maintain other parts of the cemeteries.	10/19/2024 10:34 AM
58	Because there are war graves that are neglected in those areas and the souls in those graves deserve so much more! I have witnessed hidden war graves in higher than waist height grass. The only ones shown the appropriate level of dignity and respect are the group plots managed by CWGC. Those to be upkept by the local authority just aren't. It's disgusting!	10/19/2024 10:19 AM
59	To encourage wildlife while maintaining access	10/19/2024 9:51 AM
60	This is great but around people's graves should be cut short so when families go to lay flowers they can actually see the graves of their loved ones	10/19/2024 9:04 AM
61	just because the graves are older doesnt mean that the individual is of any less value , it looks so unkempt / without dignity for the person	10/19/2024 8:46 AM
62	Spend the money to benefit the living. If the families want the grass cut then they should be doing it for their benefit.	10/19/2024 7:41 AM
63	Please keep encouraging wildlife	10/19/2024 6:39 AM
64	We need a balance long grasses around edges and old graves, mown grass round newer graves	10/18/2024 7:26 PM
65	Looks awful and uncared for. A money saving excuse	10/18/2024 7:02 PM
66	It's so untidy. Does not encourage wild life.. Just an untidy mess	10/18/2024 6:49 PM
67	Older areas can be left for nature, but newer areas should be cut more often. More notices and Information for people on site about what is done, why and when.	10/18/2024 5:47 PM
68	Unfortunately the long grass has lost a lot of native flowers, violets for example and are strangled by over dominant weeds. The variety has been lost	10/18/2024 5:38 PM
69	Would like to see an increase in butterflies and birds as most other open areas around Weymouth have been built on	10/18/2024 4:58 PM
70	To protect pollinators	10/18/2024 4:45 PM
71	The area you have chosen in Melcombe Cemetery is an area where graves are visited on a regular basis and they are relatives that have died in the 20-40 years. There are younger generation adults that attend these graves. Can the area for wildlife be moved to a different area where the graves are older and are not visited as frequently. My grandparents graves are within your area and I find it offensive that there is no respect and/or forethought that during the period you do not want to cut the grass is during the summer period where it is easier to attend the grave. We have paid for the plots, and if we need to access the plot for a further burial then this could be hindered. Please just find another area that has older graves where relatives do not visit.	10/18/2024 3:37 PM
72	To increase biodiversity in the context of species decline.	10/18/2024 3:04 PM
73	Cemeteries should not be part of a fashionable fad for nature experiments. The state of Wyke cemetery earlier this year was a disgrace. I couldn't even find my mum's headstone as the grass was so high. I complained and was told the grass would be cut that week - it wasn't. What a contrast to a crem and cemetery I visited for a funeral in Lichfield this week. The whole area was immaculate and treated with the respect, care and maintenance it deserves.	10/18/2024 2:36 PM
74	The area on the map indicated was not the only area left to overgrown. To the right of vehicle access three was also left. This area contains a RAF military grave stone, David Maclean which a 100 year old family veteran & his family/friends still visit. Only they couldn't get access to it. The area is already uneven underfoot and compounded by the lack of maintenance this year one just couldn't see where to put ones feet to visit it. Totally unacceptable and disrespectful. The area you have indicated also contains another grave from the same family that has recently been renewed and a new stone put in for Edith Prowse, and	10/18/2024 2:21 PM

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that again cannot be accessed. It's distressing. The family have paid their dues both monetary & with their lives, it's totally disgraceful.

75	The Habitat provided is extremely and far more important outweighing any perceived downsides . There is no real justification for anyone to moan about this , please continue .	10/18/2024 2:02 PM
76	It looks really messy, and it's not fair on families who wish to pay they respects at grave plots that are all over grown and have hard to get to. Not only that but is rather unsafe for them to walk through as there could be a number of things in the over growth that could cause harm for example ticks or even snakes.	10/18/2024 1:10 PM
77	Cemeterys are where people visit departed love ones. It should be a place for quiet reflection and comfort. If the grass is left to grow the graves are hidden causing distress, i myself have experienced this tryng to find my mothers and sisters plot it was very distressing. In my opinion Cemeterys should be well maintained tidy places where you can visit without playing hunt the gravestone!.	10/18/2024 11:04 AM
78	Biodiversity is essential if this planet is to thrive, eg without bees & other polinators we would have no food. Even small areas contribute to maintaining a variety of species of plants, insects & animals & I would welcome being buried somewhere that nature could flourish.	10/17/2024 11:16 PM
79	My daughter, who died at the age of 42, lies in a meadow at Higher Ground, Corscombe overlooking Glastonbury Tor. A natural and beautiful place. I can think of no reason why our local cemeteries should not be allowed to be the same - surely this is what burial means. Dust to dust, ashes to ashes, the cycle of life - pushing up the daisies if you like ...	10/17/2024 9:52 PM
80	I've clicked on don't know. That's because I appreciate the differing grass lengths but in my experience of the insect diversity, the grass encouraged grasshoppers but it swamps any flowers. I've walked around the cemeteries and seen few butterflies or bees on the grass, few of any flowers. Where there are Ragwort in the Melcombe Regis cemetery, there are many Gatekeeper butterflies. A few bees on the flowering thistles, most bees were found on the clover flowers in the mown area around the Commonwealth graves. My advice is create a flowering border (which would connect with gardens around the perimeter) around the cemeteries. Less area to cover, inside kept relatively cut, allowing any flowers to come up. Would look relatively tidy and you wouldn't have to apologize for the 'weeds'.... signs which generally gets broken or kicked over.	10/17/2024 7:36 PM
81	1. The biodiversity advantages are very clear. And in fact obvious when walking through these areas. The wildflowers are magnificent and there are clearly more insects and also birds. 2. I am afraid that I disagree entirely with those saying that the practice is disrespectful. Far from it. I think that the areas are in fact more spiritual, more natural and feel less municipal. 3. The areas in question are relatively small. I think that they should perhaps be extended, although I know that this is not on the agenda. 4. I hope that the council does not just listen to the loud voices in this matter. I do not think that they are necessarily representative. Without exception everyone I have ever spoken to agrees that allowing grass and wild flowers to grow is a positive thing.	10/17/2024 4:24 PM
82	I believe that allowing the grass to grow longer supports crucial pollinators. The long grass and the wildlife it supports also brings a sense of calm when I visit.	10/17/2024 3:48 PM
83	The future of the population is dependent upon ensuring we have sufficient pollinators and helping our wildlife is far more important than looking after the graves of people who have gone before us.	10/17/2024 3:32 PM
84	I am a resident whose garden borders the cemetery. The view from the window is better when the grass in the graveyard is flourishing. My garden does better when the area around it offers more habitat for insects and birds. The grass benefits from not being cut unnecessarily in the Summer, providing resilience against drought and helping with flood prevention. I would be very sad if the graveyard was cut short everywhere all the time. I walk in the graveyard and enjoy sitting in the long grass. The grass is not so long as to be unable to see the graves and I have never had any access issue due to long grass. Preserving the graveyard as a habitat is important for preserving biodiversity in the area. At a time when we are facing a nature emergency I would hope that the council and others would agree.	10/17/2024 1:14 PM
85	The last summer it was horrendous trying to visit and grass was too long - I believe in maintaining the ability for wildlife to flourish but not at cost that unable to visit grave, or even see where it was. Maybe keep the long grass to the outskirts and nowhere near the graves, perhaps some of the parks can be left with an area for wildlife growing?	10/17/2024 8:50 AM

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86	1. To encourage wildlife and wildflower meadows (the most important factor for me) 2. Shorter grass through the wildlife areas enables people of all mobility visit their family graves and enjoy the wildlife from the pathways. At the moment I am very happy with the way that the Council manages the graveyards at All Saints Church in Wyke, we now have a beautiful wild flower meadow. At our churches counter count in nature in June (survey). We identified more than 115 plant species and I am sure that the council's current mowing regime contributes to this.	10/16/2024 10:04 AM
87	it is impossible to visit graves when the grass is too long and there is little or no benefit to the wildlife . It just encourages litter and looks awful	10/15/2024 3:03 PM
88	I visit 4 different graves many times during each year, birthdays and anniversaries. 3 are located in the headstone graves opposite crematorium and 1 is located in the burial ground area adjacent to Shirecroft Road. I feel all grave areas should be maintained the same ie grass cut all year round. Why have you singled out the newest graves to have different treatment? When the grass areas are left long the headstones are not easily visible and some are lying down which could cause a nasty accident if tripped over. The burial grounds are even more hazardous if the grave is situated on the inner section.	10/15/2024 1:07 PM
89	Melcombe cemetery is designated as a Site of Nature Conservation Interest with notable Dorset species. It's full of butterflies and other insects, as well as rare Dorset flowers. The Council declared an Ecological Emergency, and so should manage the best wildlife area it owns properly.	10/14/2024 10:42 PM
90	Good for the environment. Consequently welcome, so long as access to graves and the immediate area around them is maintained. Otherwise the impression is given that the Council no longer cares about the overall appearance and the purpose of the cemeteries they maintain.	10/14/2024 4:22 PM
91	Any help that can be given to the local wildlife seems like a good idea.	10/14/2024 10:18 AM
92	I don't like seeing it overgrown, it's disrespecting the people in their graves. Plots were bought thinking it would be well kept. My parents, brother and both grandparents are laid to rest here and one day my husband and I will be too. I always take shears to tidy around the grave stones. It breaks my heart to see it so untidy and looks unloved. Wildlife has lots of places to go, the nature reserve for one. Please think again.	10/13/2024 11:43 PM
93	I think we should endeavour to protect and encourage wildlife as much as possible. Wild areas are beautiful, neat areas are without real interest.	10/13/2024 5:24 PM
94	There meant to be areas of respect I don't find it appropriate to look jungle like plenty of others area for bio diversity	10/13/2024 4:25 PM
95	The cemetery should be maintained at all areas that hold a grave. It is a disgrace to say it is to help biodiversity when it is obviously just another excuse not to maintain areas of grass. Small areas of planted wildflowers are fine but they also need maintenance so that there is not just long grass. What if someone trips and falls because they cannot see the edge of a grave. Who will be responsible? If you really want a green option. Graze sheep in there but for goodness sake keep the grass short!	10/13/2024 4:01 PM
96	Obviously biodiversity is more important than pearl clutching boomer's sensitivities	10/13/2024 3:43 PM
97	It is absolutely vital that we do all we can to reverse the dreadful decline in biodiversity. I greatly respect WTC for following Dorset Wildlife Trust's advice and hope you will continue to manage cemetery grassland in the way they recommend.	10/13/2024 1:57 PM
98	Maybe keep the edges of the cemetery wild, but graves and paths should always be mown out of respect for the deceased and living relatives.	10/13/2024 12:59 PM
99	Because of the benefit to wildlife which needs all the help it can get these days!	10/13/2024 12:06 PM
100	You can not see any of the grave stones it looks a mess with such long grass and no respect for the dead at all! It seems the council are just cost cutting and saying it is for the wild life it clearly is just lazy and messy and out of respect grave stones should be able to be read	10/13/2024 10:32 AM
101	Good for the pollinators and can look good if done with thought and care. As long as respect is clearly observed over the resting places.	10/13/2024 10:19 AM
102	Large trees have been allowed to grow into graves, why?, tree foliage discolouring near graves, which then requires cleaning.	10/13/2024 8:56 AM

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103	My husband is buried in Weymouth Cemetery (1990) I appreciate that there is a small space returned to nature.	10/13/2024 8:38 AM
104	A cemetery should be a place of calm not a jungle of weeds. The current situation gives rise to emotions of anger whenever one passes through. We should care for such places and indeed wild life is not encouraged, only the fast growing invasive weeds. Let us be proud again. Can one imagine the outcry if for example war cemeteries in Europe were left like this. Whatever the classification a cemetery has we must respect it.	10/13/2024 8:12 AM
105	It is a fallacy that leaving grass long and unkempt increases biodiversity it simple means that certain plants (the thugs) overtake the other plants increasing an ugly and untidy appearance. Our country has become one where pride in our surroundings has been forgotten.	10/13/2024 8:07 AM
106	I regularly walk through Melcombe cemetery. The wild flowers were beautiful this year and the summer sound of crickets chirping was wonderful. However, these are predominantly old unattended graves. I can understand the concerns of those who regularly visit the graves of loved ones. Interesting that war graves always have the grass cut even though no one visits these graves. Please keep the long grass!	10/13/2024 7:30 AM
107	My family grave is in the older part of Wyke cemetery and when the grass is left long I am frightened to get to it as you can not see where the grave stones are and can easily trip over.	10/13/2024 6:33 AM
108	It looks awful and people still visit the graves all year around	10/13/2024 6:05 AM
109	Keep the grave yards clean and tidy. Just because it's cheaper not to cut the grass doesn't make it right. Show a bit of respect.	10/13/2024 5:31 AM
110	Our wildlife, especially pollinators, are at an all time low and need all the support they can get. It's also beautiful to see all the different species when visiting the graveyard. I have three generations buried at Melcombe Regis cemetery and will be there myself one day, I'd love to think that in our passing we support the continuing web of life on the planet.	10/13/2024 1:39 AM
111	Whilst respecting our deceased is important we also need to protect our planet for the living. Encouraging wildlife to areas with low human traffic is an excellent use of open space. Having wild flowers, bees and butterflies for me increases my sense of peace and solace.	10/13/2024 1:31 AM
112	Grass should be kept a short length on all paths and around graves all year around so that relatives can visit their loved ones safely. Grass cuttings should also be collected and not left covering graves as has recently happened at Wyke (Oct 24) - please show some respect to our departed loved ones . Cemeteries are not hay meadows! Thank you.	10/12/2024 4:33 PM
113	To help maintain nature	10/12/2024 12:30 PM
114	To allow wildlife to have a haven and not kill off wildlife, plants etc	10/12/2024 12:27 PM
115	It's vital that wildlife has place to thrive.	10/12/2024 12:10 PM
116	Cemeteries should be places to respect the dead and well maintained. They are not wildlife reserves.	10/12/2024 8:34 AM
117	Provides hanitat for wildl8fe and bees :)	10/12/2024 7:34 AM
118	Cemeteries should be kept neat and tidy in respect for those whose final resting place it is and their families and friends. they are not nature reserves. If they are not properly maintained they soon become an untidy mess like most of the roadside verges in our county. This then attracts littering.	10/11/2024 9:04 PM
119	Long wildflower areas provide habitats for many animals and are a great food source for pollinators which are in a worryingly decline.	10/11/2024 6:30 PM
120	By all means have a more relaxed approach to grass cutting in the periphery areas of the cemeteries. But gravesites should be maintained for a "cared for" appearance, therefore grass and weeds should be cut at the regular frequency. Cutting and collecting grass around headstones is difficult and the risk of damage to the headstones is increased when cutting long grass and they cannot easily be seen. Leaving grass areas for environmental benefits does not mean leaving alone. If left to their own devices grass areas will be overtaken by scrub and invasive plants and weeds. Uncut grass areas, after the initial flush of growth, look untidy. Also the safety of people visiting graves over uneven grounds where long grass is present may also be compromised.	10/11/2024 6:01 PM

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121	Cemeteries should be kept neat and grass kept short so that gravestones can be accessed and read! For those with mobility issues it is hard enough to access the graves without having longer grass to deal with.	10/11/2024 5:57 PM
122	It is very important that there is short grass and level access to areas round graves. The grass there should always be kept short as it is very difficult to even find the graves if it allowed to grow longer. The unused areas can be left natural for biodiversity but around the graves it should be short.	10/11/2024 5:33 PM
123	There are plenty of open spaces for wildlife areas. It's important for the Cemetery's to be clean, tidy, easily accessible and protected. The grass should be cut/managed all year round and not left to grow whereby it becomes hard to see the headstones, looks shabby when it's cut less often and the whole cemetery should be cut out of respect to those who gave their lives fighting for our Country. I visit graves of veterans who served and I find it difficult to locate when the grass is left to grow. The grass looks terrible when's it's cut from a longer length and ultimately allows weeds to grown not meadows.	10/11/2024 5:07 PM
124	I think it's VERY disrespectful to allow cemeteries to become overgrown. Graves are important to the love ones left behind when someone passes away, especially the graves of veterans who have sacrificed their lives, for our benefit. They should be kept neat and tidy.	10/11/2024 3:53 PM
125	Grass (Graminaceae) is self-pollinated by the wind. The grounds should be kept neat, tidy and respectful and the grass cut short regularly. Trips & falls resulting from long grass will only result in negative Council press and legal cases suing the Council for negligence/H&S issues.	10/11/2024 3:38 PM
126	Really important for biodiversity, love seeing the wildflowers every summer.	10/11/2024 3:34 PM
127	Wildlife is in severe decline. Insects have been decimated in England. Wild areas are needed	10/11/2024 2:32 PM
128	They should left the grass to grow in the summer for the wild life.	10/11/2024 2:17 PM
129	I feel that it is disrespectful to the people who are buried there and that we should put these people first above wildlife in this area. They should be kept neat, clean and tidy.	10/11/2024 1:43 PM
130	The grass around the graves should be short and maintained. This if out of respect to the people who fought for us and keep it looking tidy and clean. I would like to ask how is this a survey with one question and only being able to select one cemetery, I have visited all three but can't select them all!	10/11/2024 1:15 PM
131	Should be all tidy and short round by the gravestones and then a separate wildlife area fenced and we'll kept . Graves should be kept neat and tidy out of respect for those buried there. Also , just a bit of feedback , how is this a survey with only one question ?	10/11/2024 1:12 PM
132	Cemeteries should be kept clean and tody at all times, over grown grass shows clearly it is neglected and not respectful to the families visiting their loved ones.	10/11/2024 1:02 PM
133	Cemeteries are the ideal place to encourage biodiversity as they are generally quite quiet with little human footfall around the older graves	10/11/2024 12:47 PM
134	To support biodiversity	10/11/2024 12:19 PM
135	I believe that cemeteries should be a place of respect snd remembrance of the deceased. We should treat them as such!	10/11/2024 12:09 PM
136	For the bees	10/11/2024 11:54 AM
137	Cemeteries are dedicated to people and our very deep and personal needs. Unfashionable to say but sometimes people do actually take priority over wildlife, which can be supported outside of these very special places. It is deeply disrespectful to treat cemeteries as wildlife parks, with people being something of an inconvenience to that aim.	10/11/2024 11:53 AM
138	It is very difficult to answer this question correctly. When visiting the cemeteries recently it was apparent that no cutting of grass around the actual graves had taken place which is totally unacceptable. There could be designated areas in cemeteries for bio diversity and wildlife but should be no where near people's graves .It is hugely disrespectful. Graves should be well tended.	10/11/2024 11:05 AM
139	The cemeteries have short cut grass by/for paths for understandable practical reason; the flora and fauna the mid-length and longer grass areas bring adds so much more to the tranquility of the cemeteries - beautiful flowers and seed heads, birds and insects as well as mammals.	10/11/2024 10:44 AM

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Good for wellbeing. We should be putting the environment and wildlife at the forefront of planning.

140	To aid wildlife that benefit from the longer grass.	10/11/2024 10:27 AM
141	Biodiversity is critical	10/11/2024 9:59 AM
142	It's good for the bees and other pollinators and it looks quite nice :)	10/11/2024 9:56 AM
143	To insure we have a diverse wildlife population	10/11/2024 9:55 AM
144	For the wildlife, bees etc.	10/11/2024 9:13 AM
145	because we are losing so many important important pollinators . It is essential that we do what ever we can to encourage biodiversity. However there are things that can be done to help encourage people to engage and support. Long areas of grass need to be seen to be managed ie removing tricky plants such as docks, adding in wild flowers and yellow rattle. (Hay meadows for example take hundreds of years to develop naturally - we don't have hundreds of years). Cutting paths through longer areas allows people to wander through them and looks far more intentional. Bright well looked after boards that give accessible information about wild life for all ages. This also applies to verges and patches of grass outside houses on streets ie Marlborough avenue. There is a careful balance to keeping folk on board with conservation and environmental care.	10/11/2024 8:57 AM
146	We need bees to make the food chain	10/11/2024 8:34 AM
147	1 in 6 UK species are at risk of extinction (latest State of Nature report). This year we have seen a crash in pollinator numbers. Cemeteries are places where the proximity of nature supports human wellbeing, providing health benefits to visitors. The outlined strategy is an excellent and much-needed way to help humans and nature flourish.	10/11/2024 8:30 AM
148	I want keep grass grow	10/11/2024 7:44 AM
149	It's better for wildlife so we should do what we can to protect it	10/11/2024 7:42 AM
150	As some family members may not be around to tend to their headstones, surrounding area. Also doesn't then make it look overgrown	10/11/2024 7:35 AM
151	bees	10/11/2024 7:24 AM
152	It's good for wildlife	10/11/2024 7:07 AM
153	We need to support nature when we can. Areas that have "meadows" will be a massive benefit to the local wildlife. This includes insects.	10/11/2024 5:42 AM
154	For the bees	10/11/2024 5:29 AM
155	Because it's critical to support biodiversity for the sake of the living whilst being respectful to those who use these places to remember lost loved ones	10/10/2024 10:57 PM
156	It's for the bees	10/10/2024 10:35 PM
157	I do the butterfly count every year. The grass was cut short earlier this year and right in the middle of the Meadow browns breeding. This year there were significantly less of them, last year I saw 40-60 each walk, this year I saw 8-10 if I was lucky. I walk through Weymouth cemetery 1-2 times a day come rain or shine for up to 2hrs with my dogs. I am likely there more often than most and I see the seasons change and I see all of the wildlife it has benefitted and there are only two graves in the area you show that have people upset and cutting around them and those are only visited at anniversaries. If anything I would increase the area like before, it is beautiful to walk through with all the wild flowers blooming and the butterflies everywhere. I honestly can't see how anyone could see it as unsightly. Unfortunately I haven't seen the green woodpeckers this year but I'm sure they would reappear if given a chance.	10/10/2024 10:31 PM
158	Support bees and wildlife	10/10/2024 10:08 PM
159	For the benefit of the bees	10/10/2024 10:00 PM
160	It's for the bees	10/10/2024 9:58 PM
161	As long as looks well kept and tidy. Last thing you want to see graves looking overgrown and	10/10/2024 9:53 PM

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	abandoned	
162	To provide a natural habitat for nature can only be a positive thing.	10/10/2024 9:52 PM
163	To protect the bees	10/10/2024 9:46 PM
164	For the bees and the Beauty	10/10/2024 9:42 PM
165	Because it's so important for the insects and wildlife to have areas that aren't cut so they have a home and food.	10/10/2024 9:25 PM
166	I like having wildflowers and also an area to walk around	10/10/2024 9:10 PM
167	The nature emergency is more important than maintaining short grass in areas of historic graves, which are no longer visited.	10/10/2024 9:04 PM
168	Allow wildflower areas to flourish as natural habitat for wildlife such as bees.	10/10/2024 8:44 PM
169	It's good for nature	10/10/2024 8:22 PM
170	It's important to have as that can wildflower for the bees, and other creatures.	10/10/2024 8:21 PM
171	It offers the best way to please everybody, including the bees and other wildlife along with tidy paths for those that like things neat	10/10/2024 8:14 PM
172	Supports wildlife, particularly the bee population, which is currently under threat from developments and reduction in habitats.	10/10/2024 8:12 PM
173	For the benefit of the bees	10/10/2024 8:02 PM
174	Leave to grow to encourage wildlife	10/10/2024 7:59 PM
175	There is scientific proof that butterflies and other insects are rapidly declining. This will have a detrimental effect on the whole eco system. We need to help protect them by providing areas for insects as much as possible. This is their planet as well.	10/10/2024 7:59 PM
176	Flower meadows in summer are beautiful	10/10/2024 7:57 PM
177	As a beekeeper, I can see benefit in allowing the grass to grow and create a wildflower meadow.	10/10/2024 7:32 PM
178	The cemetery is a disgrace! It is difficult to see, let alone get to some graves and is upsetting for visiting family. It is disrespectful to treat graves like this.	10/10/2024 6:56 PM
179	I think k it a good idea to let nature developed and grow.	10/10/2024 5:52 PM
180	Bees	10/10/2024 5:04 PM
181	Thankfully we are surrounded by green spaces, fields and open countryside. I went to visit my buried grand parents and could not see the toos of the head stones even, if you want the public to file compensation suits against the council, then your heading the right way. Many visitors are elderly, I couldn't and wouldn't want to delve into the Meadows as they had become, it was to dangerous for unseen hazards. Also it's utterly disrespectful to those put to rest there and to any visiting friend or family member. It just looked as if the Council could not be bothered and allowed nature to take over. In accordance to the Wildlife Trusts recommendations, the three grades of grass naturalisation was NOT adhered to in the slightest, zero evidence of any varying degrees of growth. It was just left. Plus as the Council gains public funds for the maintaining of these areas, you may want to explain where the allocated funds went for the cemeteries maintainence this year, because it wasn't used where it should have been. The Council need to look after public areas, that's what your role is.	10/10/2024 4:39 PM
182	Cemeteries are a place of sorrow and solitude. They need to be kept cut and well maintained in all areas so that those who visit feel that their loved ones are cared for but more importantly respected. Leaving areas wild and unkempt attract vandalism from youths and a refuge for drunks and drug addicts. It is also a really poor advert for Weymouth Town councillors decision making and shows a lack of respect for the community as a whole.	10/10/2024 4:29 PM
183	It is disrespectful to the living & dead. Unnecessary as plenty of natural habitats in and around Weymouth. It is a health & safety breach if people cannot see edges of graves, it also encourages snakes and vermin. The town council doesn't have many responsibilities as most with DCC, please do the job properly.	10/10/2024 4:12 PM

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184	Save the environment save the bees!! don't cut short just for short sited aesthetics, no one uses the cemeteries for picnics anyway it's so silly to cut it short when it does so much ecological good, I'll be really disappointed if you cut it short again	10/10/2024 3:32 PM
185	It looks nice, it is good for the environment and it does not cause any harm	10/10/2024 3:29 PM
186	Because we've pad for that service if you want to save money stop putting that stuff "don't know what it's called" on the footpaths totally waste of man power and money and I could mention a few more things 🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄	10/10/2024 3:26 PM
187	As well as the benefits to wildlife I feel this provides a 'back to nature' feel and higher level of tranquility befitting of a cemetery. Perhaps the designated areas need some further review either in terms of their proximity to adjacent habitats to increase interconnectivity for wildlife. Another consideration I think is worthy is the possibility of a rotating the management programme so areas of medium and long grassland varies year on year. This would assist in both maintaining the diversity of the sward but also mitigating negative feelings that some people feel over the long grassland.	10/10/2024 2:39 PM
188	As long as it is managed and not just left to go wild and unkept, Cemetery's are a good place for nature to survive .also it is good for mental health to observe wildlife on a daily basis.	10/10/2024 2:27 PM
189	Looking after nature is vital. The areas of longer grass are largely in areas where people no longer visit graves, as people buried here were buried so long ago. They are an ideal opportunity to leave longer grass, so that wildlife can thrive.	10/10/2024 2:13 PM
190	It shld be maintained and mowed regularly. It's a place where we go to grieve and honour our loved ones	10/10/2024 2:03 PM
191	It all needs maintaining at the same level. Relatives shouldn't have to maintain graves and access to graves.	10/10/2024 2:02 PM
192	Wildlife is more important than maintaining an area for dead people. They don't care as it's their survivors who want it maintained	10/10/2024 1:29 PM
193	Becuse it seems the war graves in melcombe Regis cemetery are to be left over grown? There are plenty of other spaces around this town where yuh can have designated areas to leave to grow. Cemetery's are sacred places, the last resting places of many. They should be respected, not disrespected. The council is not listening again to the majority. Stop pandering to the minority who see only their view. I'm all for biodiversity, I'm all for fauna and flora for bees, birds and butterflies. But definitely not in cemetery's . Those that still have living relatives are rightly upset, but even those with no living ancestors should be treated with respect.	10/10/2024 1:10 PM
194	There are no obvious footpath access to loved ones graves in Wyke cemetery without having to tramp over other graves.	10/10/2024 12:47 PM
195	I believe the grass should be cut just once or twice a year. Unless the graves in that area are within say 30 years old... and therefore more likely to have visitors. The wildlife takes precedent over dead people in my opinion.	10/10/2024 12:39 PM
196	The long grass doesn't provide pollinators such as bees much chance to pollinate. There's also almost no wild flowers in dorset nevermind weymouth cemeteries. Cutting more than twice a year will be better for the environment. It seems like it's laziness on part of the council in organising regular upkeep of the cemeteries	10/10/2024 11:49 AM
197	Good for biodiversity	10/10/2024 11:48 AM