

Projects update



What we're working on, at the moment...

Health Connections Champions

FTC staff attended a Health Connections Champion training session this month to learn more about the well-being opportunities and health-focused community groups that are in and around Frome. Health Champions are volunteers and after training can provide signposting information - however do not provide any direct support or medical advice.

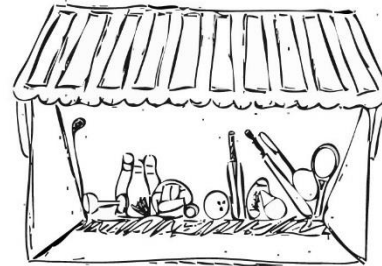
Staff learnt the key factors which have an impact on health and *how* to signpost someone to access support groups, services and information that might help improve their health and well-being; this can be for a carer, patient, or concerned friend or family member.

Training was delivered by Julie Carey-Downes, a Health Connector. This role works one-to-one to assist people in setting health-related goals and support people to make achievable changes to their well-being. This service is free of charge and is open to patients of Mendip GP practices. Anyone can self-refer by contacting mendip.healthconnections@nhs.net or calling 01373 468368.

Health Connectors can also assist in setting up new support groups if there is a gap identified within the community; and there is demand for particular support. The outcome of the scheme is for patients, carers and the wider community to have a solid network of advice and support available, as well as individuals able to self-manage their health needs.

To find out more go to www.healthconnectionsmendip.org.

Sport in Frome



Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership are looking to recruit a part-time participation worker specific to Frome, to engage more people in informal sporting activity. We will be working closely with the charitable trust, sports groups and organisations in the town to build this new project - which meets some of the recommendations of the Sports and Leisure panel. To find out more about SASP visit www.sasp.co.uk/about

Ranger volunteering

The Town Rangers have completed their first season of partnership work with the pupils (and teachers!) from Critchill School.

The Critchill Rangers - or the Critchill Crew, as they've become known - have been helping to look after Millennium Green over the autumn and the winter, clearing scrub, bashing brambles and generally learning about the type of outdoor work the Rangers do. Bird breeding & nesting season means a halt to this sort of work for now, but the pupils will be continuing their local litter picks to help keep the town clean & tidy. If any other schools in Frome would like to volunteer with the Council please get in touch with our [Rangers](#).

Car Club update

Frome Car Club now has over 90 members and is expanding. There's now an efficient, low emission petrol car available from the Frome Town Hall for just £3.75 an hour. The electric Nissan Leaf is available from the

Cheese and Grain and the Toyota Yaris Hybrid is available from St John's Church off Bath St. An additional electric vehicle is due to join the fleet in the summer. Sign up to www.co-wheels.org.uk/frome to join the Car Club. Contact our [Resilience Officer](#) for further enquiries. Minute number **2015/09 25/02/2015**

Frome Town Hall



Cllr Colin Cobb and Paul Wynne expect that producing the tender documents for the refurbishment of the Town Hall will be completed by the end of

the month. Work on site is scheduled to start in late May and finish in December/January as planned. The quantity surveyor remains confident that the budget of £750,000 will not be breached. Urgent winter works including work on the roof, gutters, down pipes and small scale re-pointing are very nearly complete.

The final outstanding tasks to be completed prior to letting the main contract include dealing with some damp, asbestos removal and making sure the boiler is fit for purpose. We'll be placing a noticeboard at the front of the building that will provide regular updates as the project proceeds. [Town Clerk](#)
Minute number **2014/72 17/09/2014**

Four tier meeting of Cllrs

Frome Town Council has initiated meetings between the 4-tiers of local for Frome working towards shared goals for Frome. There have been 3 meetings so far, Cllrs from Frome Town Council and Mendip District Council met last on 10 March to discuss a variety of topics. Unfortunately, colleagues from the County and David Warburton, MP for Frome were unable to attend. The discussion included next steps influencing upcoming s106 agreements, how to provide more comprehensive cycle routes and footpaths, fracking, the dearth of affordable housing and the implications for Frome of the proposals in the Government's housing bill which is being consulted on. For more information contact the [Town Clerk](#).

Rodden Meadow works

Work has started on a variety of river habitat and riverbank improvements in Rodden Meadow. Funded by the Environment Agency, the project aims to improve fish habitats along the River Frome – and will extend to Weylands as well. Favourable spring weather conditions have seen volunteers join Mike Blackmore of the Wild Trout Trust – with Mike togged up in chest-high waders!

Project tasks are going to include clearing some of the overgrown bankside trees to open up views of the river; and let more sunlight onto the river - which is good for the fish. The cleared wood will then be stacked behind wooden posts along eroded sections of riverbank. As well as helping to slow down erosion at these spots, this will itself create valuable cover for smaller river creatures. Contact our [Community Projects Officer](#) for more details about this work.

For information:

Mendip District Council has advised it is working to reduce fly-tipping in and around Gypsy Lane, Berkley Lane & Dark Lane by restricting access to these roads, starting on Monday 11 April.

The temporary road closure covers:

Berkley Lane – from the north side of the Pines Residential Site to a point just before the railway bridge (before Berkley village)

Dark Lane – all the way to the junction with Pot Lane

At this juncture the closure is a temporary one – set to last for 18 months. During that time the District Council will carry out reviews to ensure that the closure is necessary and proportionate. If the temporary closure proves successful then the Council may consider making it permanent.

Pedestrians and cyclists will still be able to use the lanes.

In addition Enforcement Officers are increasing patrols in a bid to prosecute offenders. Crimestoppers also record an anonymous report of fly-tipping witnessed. Call 0800 555111 or go to www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Please contact Mendip District Council directly on 0300 303 8588 or at customerservices@mendip.gov.uk if you have any questions or comments regarding this issue.
