



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

Appendix 3

Could you be a Friend of the Fridge?



Frome's new community fridge is being well used - we've found that food gets taken from the fridge very quickly. In order to

'rescue' more food from local businesses we need more 'friends' to collect donations – this takes as little as 10 minutes at the end of the day. For more information about this and how you might be able to help contact our [Resilience Officer](#).

Wellbeing Forum

Following the success and recommendations of the Wellbeing Panel, we've formed the Wellbeing Forum - a quarterly meeting to act as a 'think tank' for Frome's wellbeing - tightening up the definition, how the Council might measure success and developing a co-ordinated approach that will support the Council's on-going strategy. The forum will be meeting 23 May, at the Key Centre at Keyford midday until 3.30pm. Members of the press and public are welcome to attend. If you're unable to attend the meeting but would like to contribute to the forum, you can email our [Community Projects Officer](#) with your considerations.



Students get hands-on with the Town Rangers

Students from Oakfield and Selwood Schools were given a hands-on and hands dirty(!) introduction to the life of a Town Ranger at last week's Youth Conference.

Led by Ranger Mark, the students started the day picking up new skills & practical knowledge as they inspected the play area on the Old Showfield. Then Ranger Dave organised a session focused on basic tree works and edging out turf from the edge of paths. Last, but definitely not least, Ranger Mike gave everyone an overview of traditional grassland management followed by a lesson in cutting grass with a scythe.

Just as importantly, the students and Rangers were able to talk throughout the day about vocational work, highlighting the opportunities of taking a trade and the importance of developing skills through training.

Talk about Frome's Heritage

We're looking to reflect the heritage of the company and the foundry in the project to improve Foundry Barton; so we've organised a talk on the History of Singers Foundry at 7pm on Thursday 19 May at Frome Canoe Club. This talk will be an opportunity to find out a bit more about the town's history.

There are still seats available so anyone interested in attending can – but there is limited capacity in

the Canoe Club, so please let us know in advance if you'd like to come
admin@frometowncouncil.gov.uk

Tennis

Nearly there...

The three new tennis courts on Mary Baily have been painted now – and everyone involved is working on the final touches to have them open for use asap.

However, the celebration opening event planned for Saturday 28 May to open the new courts has been postponed until later in the summer – perhaps around Wimbledon.

The courts will cost £5 per court per hour to hire – and people can book online at www.frometennis.net or in person by calling in to the library. In conjunction with the tennis club, the Council has also organised for the courts to be open for free at times during June, July and August. Contact us or head online to find out more about this.

Thank you Frome volunteers



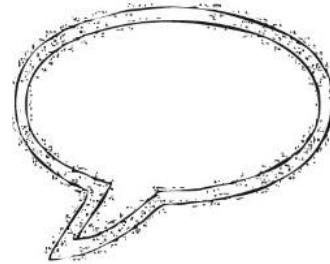
We're taking bookings for places at VOLUNTEA in the park, a tea-party to say a big thanks to the many volunteers of Frome and the surrounding areas on Sunday 5 June. Anyone who volunteers can sign up and enjoy an afternoon of high tea at one of Frome's

picturesque parks. For more information, see our website here:

<http://www.frometowncouncil.gov.uk/voluntea-in-the-park-2016/> or book by contacting

poultonl@frometowncouncil.gov.uk or 01373 475572.

Discover Frome wants to hear from you!



As part of FTC's engagement with businesses in the town, the Council run Discover Frome website is reaching out to local businesses. We will be

asking those who attend the Business Breakfasts to share information they have which might be suitable to feature on the Discover Frome website and subsequent social media platforms. We'd like to hear about: Awards local businesses have won; Business news or business stories; anything being done to reduce waste or recycle; How businesses have collaborated with others; companies in Frome which are an accredited Living Wage employer; products made or offers which are unique to Frome; why people have chosen to operate their business in Frome; any events being put on that are open to the public; training offered to local businesses.

Those wishing to submit a news item or story can contact our [Communications Administrator](#) with a press release, photos or video. Please make sure to caption and credit any photos and leave contact details.

Cork street car park to get a revamp

Frome Town Council has been working with Mendip District Council (MDC) to secure some improvements to the town centre's car parks. The good news is that MDC have just confirmed that Cork Street Car Park is going to get a revamp including: resurfacing; new signage and repairs to railings. The date is to be announced shortly but we

expect this work to start in June. In addition, they will also tidy up a number of the other car parks in the town soon after.

This project is part of a broader initiative to make the town centre streets and public spaces more attractive, welcoming and functional. Amongst other things, particular attention is being paid this year to remove obsolete posts and signage, introducing better signage and information for visitors, and improving the car parks.

For more information on this project please contact our [Economic Development & Regeneration Manager](#).

Furniture free to collect from Frome Town Hall



Frome Town Council asked Somerset County Council to leave any furniture that was surplus to them in Frome Town Hall. We have now allocated the furniture that is needed for community groups and the Council in the building.

Paul Wynne Frome Town Clerk comments "There is still a fair amount left and we would like to help out any small businesses, charities or community groups that are in need of furniture but perhaps don't have the budget to buy everything they need. We are opening the doors of the Town Hall on Friday 27 May from 10am and giving away what we don't need. There are no complete sets but there will be desks, pedestals and miscellaneous items. All we ask is that those interested in looking at what is there have the means to take the furniture away on the day and leave an optional small monetary donation that will be given to Fair Frome. Regrettably we cannot reserve any items in advance. All items will be allocated on a first come first served basis."

Council staff will be present on the day. For more information, please contact Laura at poultonl@frometowncouncil.gov.uk or on 01373 475572

For information:

Frome Town Council received numerous reports of fish being fatally affected by a spill, effecting multiple locations of the River Frome last week. We had reported this to the Environment Agency and liaised with the EA to try to find out what had happened.

"The Environment Agency was notified of a large fish kill on the River Frome in Frome town centre, Somerset, on Thursday 12 May 2016.

We have received a total of 14 reports from members of public reporting this pollution since early afternoon on Thursday 12 May 2016.

Environment Agency officers attended the River Frome on Thursday evening to investigate this pollution and assess the number of fish deaths.

Due to the high concentrations of ammonia in the river and low oxygen levels, a large number of fish were in distress or dying. Our Operations Delivery team deployed hydrogen peroxide to the river on Thursday evening to help restore levels of dissolved oxygen.

By morning on Friday 13 May the oxygen levels in the river had increased to 42% and ammonia levels had greatly reduced.

Further investigation was undertaken on Friday 13 May by Environment Management officers, during which time the source of the pollution was discovered. It appears that slurry had been released from a farm.

During our investigations on Friday 13 May, fisheries officers counted 1,604 dead fish. Species affected included Roach, Trout, Chub, Pike, Dace, Bream, Perch, Bullhead, Gudgeon, Stickleback and Minnow. Many more could have already washed downstream or been eaten by wildlife.

Breakdown of fish casualties:

588 – major (larger) fish species: Roach, Chub, Dace, Trout, Perch, Gudgeon, Bream and Pike

1016 – minor (smaller) species: Bullhead, Minnow, Stoneloach, Sticklebacks

1604 – overall

An invertebrate survey has been undertaken to assess the impact of the pollution on invertebrate life.

The pollution is being treated as a Category 1 incident (the most serious) due to the number of fish killed and impact on the environment. We are currently collating all of the evidence gathered by Environment Agency officers. This will be used to decide our enforcement response.

We are continuing to monitor the water quality of the River Frome. The water quality of the River Frome in Frome town centre is currently good."

If anyone is concerned about this incident they should in the first instance call the Environment agency on 0370 850 6506. To report any environmental incidents, call their incident line on 0800 80 70 60.
