Agenda item 9

For Information: Land to be transferred to FTC

Author: Chris Stringer, Environment Manager

Summary

This report provides an update on the known areas of land set to be transferred to the Town Council: Packsaddle (including Chapmans Close); Tower View play area; land to the north of Rodden Meadow; the Millennium Green.

Packsaddle (including Chapmans Close)

FTC's solicitors have received final lease agreements from Mendip District Council (MDC).

These require some minor changes and clarifications but once these have been agreed then the transfer will be forthcoming.

Target timeframe for completion: early summer 2017

Tower View

FTC's solicitors have now received an initial (proposed) lease agreement. This is currently being reviewed but since the terms are expected to be like those for Packsaddle & Chapmans Close, this review should be quick and straightforward.

Target timeframe for completion: autumn 2017

Rodden Meadow

FTC is working with the current landowner to agree planting schemes for the land to the north of Rodden Meadow and we are expecting to begin formal negotiations with the landowner over the summer.

Target timeframe for completion: spring 2018

Millennium Green

FTC's solicitors are currently reviewing the current agreement that is in place between MDC and the Millennium Green Trust (MGT). Following this, we will begin formal negotiations with MDC and the MGT to take on primary responsibility for the green.

In the meantime, FTC will continue to work with the MGT, the Critchill Rangers and the College Rangers in providing expertise and practical support to look after the site.

Target timeframe for completion: spring 2018

In anticipation of these transfers, we will be reviewing the management and improvement plan for Rodden Meadow this summer. This will include significant public consultation. Naturally, joining these spaces will provide an opportunity to create an important, extended green space along the river corridor. The space could offer things like informal play, woodland habitats, riverside habitats and meadow walks while supporting conservation volunteers and traditional management techniques.