

Agenda item 7

For information - Sports & Leisure update

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Summary

This report provides an update on Frome Town Council's progress on Sports & Leisure objectives of the 2017/18 work programme and related projects in this area.

Background

Coordinated by FTC, the town's Sports & Leisure Panel (SLP) met a number of times during 2015 and 2016, before presenting a set of recommendations to Council.

These recommendations were adopted by Council - and formed part of the 16/17 Work Programme.

Previously, a progress report was presented to the Council Matters committee in October 2016. The meeting reviewed the progress and informed the shaping of the actions to be included in both Environment and Wellbeing pillars of the 2017/18 work programme.

The following table details a progress report on the actions in the 17/18 work programme:

Objective	Action	Progress
Outdoor fitness	Continue regular & active promotion of the Outdoor Gym at the Old Showfield	The Showfield Spectacular event took place in September last year. Increased promotion of the outdoor gym will be considered at the next meeting of the SLP
	New - Support setup of a parkrun event at the Showfield	The parkrun organising committee has been set up and work has started on the event registration forms. Subject to funding, the rest of the footpaths around the Showfield will be improved ahead of the launch of parkrun Frome.
Provide inclusive walking & cycling opportunities in and around Frome	Gain 'Walkers Are Welcome' accreditation	This is scheduled to be completed by the Tourism Intern later in the year.
	Support the next phase of the Missing Links project	Supported successful application to Heart of Wessex Local Action Group (EU funding). Funded awareness raising projects through Participatory Budgeting (PB) Events; School Travel Challenge and Cycle powered cinema.

		Arranged professional training for Frome Missing Links volunteers to enable them to directly complete surfacing works along the route.
	Create a network of improved walking and cycling routes in and around the town, to shared-use footpath standards when & where possible.	As above.
	Create better & more functional maps of Frome's green spaces and green links and create online, interactive route maps	This will form part of the Green Infrastructure mapping.
Increase access to sports facilities in the town	Continue to work with Fusion Leisure to improve the facilities at the Leisure Centre, including lobbying	Ongoing
	Support SASP in establishing additional football pitches at the Rugby Club ahead of the 2017/2018 season	The Robins are now training at the former Frome Golf Club at Critchill which has relieved the capacity issues of football pitches in Frome. We are looking to review need of all facilities in line with the Green Infrastructure project.
	As appropriate, contribute to re-surfacing the two unused courts at Frome College for shared community use	The provision of netball courts has been secured at Oakfield Academy and Frome Netball Club has now moved back into Frome. The school has obtained planning permission for permanent floodlights on the MUGA and is currently awaiting the outcome of a Sport England funding application to fund the installation of the lights.
Increase the number of volunteers involved in sporting activities	FTC to become registered body for DBS checks; campaign as part of the 2017 sports festival	Volunteer Frome DBS service is now staffed in the Town Hall on the first Wednesday of every month.
Increase participation of adults in sport and leisure activity	Deliver a series of events which engage people in sport and leisure activity in conjunction with the SASP sport development team.	SASP no longer has a Sports Development Worker working in the Frome area and there are no plans to replace this role.

Facilitate the sports and leisure forum	To meet quarterly. Reviewing progress specifically increasing participation and improved facilities.	The next sports forum is due to be hosted at the Town Hall in October 2017.
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Other sports-related activities this year

Sports Festival: Supported the delivery of the Sports Festival hosted by Purple Elephant and Young People Frome.

Free tennis: Secured the provision of free tennis sessions during the school holidays at the tennis courts in the Mary Baily park.

Next steps

FTC will host the next Sports Forum in October 2017 with a view to extending the reach of the forum, enabling a focus on increased participation in entry level activity in sports and leisure. Volunteer Frome has identified a need to increase the number of local sports groups recruiting volunteers to support their clubs and will therefore be focussing Spark development worker time on this area over the summer of 2017.

Community Projects Officer will continue to work with Oakfield Academy to ensure they secure funding for floodlights on the MUGA (courts) at the school for community use over the winter.

Chris Stringer and Nicola Cretney will review sports and leisure actions in line with Environmental and Health & Wellbeing strategies for the development of the 18/19 Work Programme.