

## Agenda item 4

For decision: Management & Improvement Plans for Welshmill and the Roundhouse

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### Summary

This report introduces the new Management & Improvement Plan for Welshmill and the new plan for the Roundhouse (including the Otherside path)

These plans will replace the previous plans, which were discussed and approved by the Council Matters committee in September 2018.

The plan for Welshmill is scheduled to be reviewed in another year's time (summer into autumn 2020)

The plan for the Roundhouse will be reviewed the next year: summer into autumn 2021.

### Background

We have plans for the management and improvement of all the parks and green spaces that we look after.

These plans are discussed and then formally approved by the Council Matters committee. Typically, the plans are then reviewed every year; or every other year (varying by space)

By design, the format of our plans is repeated across all the parks and green spaces that we look after. The plans include information like the main habitat typology; and a management summary.

The management summary is particularly important to the plans since this shapes and influences much of our work. For example: because we manage Welshmill for its play, recreation and amenity value, projects that add to this are likely to feature in the next steps for this space.

The plans aren't intended to be daunting or overly technical. Rather, we hope that our plans are concise, straightforward & engaging - and that they encourage people to head outdoors to explore Frome's parks and green spaces.

### Previously

The outgoing plans for Welshmill and the Roundhouse were discussed and approved by the Council Matters Committee in September 2018.

We've brought these reviews forward slightly to better fit the overall review schedule (taking into account the review dates of the other spaces that we look after; especially the bigger spaces like Rodden Meadow, Victoria Park and the Old Showfield)

## Next steps

Our plans are often ambitious, and this means that we don't always manage to deliver all of the next steps within the review schedule of the plan.

With reference to the old plans, the following tables identify what we've done at Welshmill and the Roundhouse since September 2018. They also identify the things that we haven't managed to do just yet.

September 2018 to July 2019

### Welshmill:

What we've done	What we haven't done yet
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continuing woodland management</li><li>• Replaced the geometric bench</li><li>• Re-located bins nearer the main path</li><li>• New surfacing underneath benches</li><li>• Play checks and day to day repairs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New play opportunities/equipment</li><li>• Seating around the pump track</li><li>• Updated planting</li><li>• Costed works to the riding surface</li><li>• Completed any repairs to the walls</li></ul>

### The Roundhouse and the Otherside:

What we've done	What we haven't done yet
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community stewardship</li><li>• Supported FROGs</li><li>• Repairs and TLC for the bandstand</li><li>• Repairs for the steps &amp; ramps</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Costed works to the main path</li><li>• Looked into more street art</li></ul>

We still want to do most of the things that we set out to do in September 2018 – so these next steps have been carried over to the new plan. Notably – for once - we haven't added any new next steps to the plans for Welshmill or the Roundhouse. This is because there is still work to do on the next steps that we've carried over.

And added to this, the balance of work for both spaces is now shifting towards high standards of upkeep, rather than changes and new projects.

### More detail

There's more information relating to the new plans in corresponding Appendices:

- [Appendix 4.1](#) – Welshmill in a bit more detail
- [Appendix 4.2](#) – The Roundhouse in a bit more detail
- [Appendix 4.3](#) – Next steps for Welshmill

## Site risk assessments

The Council Matters committee also discusses and approves site risk assessments at the same time as reviewing management plans.

This reflects the Council's commitment to providing the town with information about how we look after the spaces that we're entrusted with.

By discussing and approving site risk assessments in this way, we are providing a clear and complete picture of what we do.

The proposed site risk assessments for Welshmill and the Roundhouse are at the following appendices:

- [Appendix 4.4](#) - Site risk assessment for Welshmill play area
- [Appendix 4.5](#) - Site risk assessment for the pump track
- [Appendix 4.6](#) - Site risk assessment for Welshmill woods
- [Appendix 4.7](#) - Site risk assessment for the riverside path by Welshmill
- [Appendix 4.8](#) - Site risk assessment for the Roundhouse
- [Appendix 4.9](#) - Site risk assessment for the Otherside

### Recommendations

1. Adopt the updated management plans for Welshmill and the Roundhouse
2. Adopt the various site risk assessments for Welshmill and the Roundhouse
3. Approve the scheduled review dates for the plans
4. Approve the scheduled annual review of the site risk assessments
5. Delegate responsibility to the Environment Manager to deliver the plans
6. Delegate responsibility to the Environment Manager to keep the site risk assessments up to date in-between approval and the (scheduled) annual reviews