

Agenda Item 9

For Information: An update on the town's parks and green spaces

Author: Chris Stringer, Environment Manager

This report provides a summary about what's happening in the town's parks and green spaces.

It's a list-based update for the committee and the town: something that's succinct and that's quick to read and reference.

The first part of the report focuses on projects and discrete pieces of work (meaning work with clearly identifiable end points)

This work is split into three categories:

- **Recently completed**
- **Ongoing**
- **Coming soon**

Projects and work listed in the **coming soon** category are expected to be completed between Council Matters meetings.

The second part of the report notes the day to day work that is being completed at the present time and the essential maintenance and upkeep that happens whatever the weather. This is mentioned for completeness, but also for context, because we necessarily balance how much time we spend on upkeep with time spent on improvements.



Recently completed

- End of season cuts for the Wild about Frome areas, including cuts at larger spaces like the Dippy, Rodden Meadow and the Showfield, and scythe cuts for Packsaddle and the Showfield Orchard
- Fitted the community noticeboard at Edmund Park
- Supported and attended a community event at Packsaddle to celebrate the play area
- Lots of events and activities in the parks and green spaces, from Meadowfest to street art to PACT meetings to cake sales to Rock the Park (pictured above)
- New bins in various spaces, including the Showfield and Whatcombe Fields

Ongoing

- Discussions with MDC about Egford Lane play area and green space
- Early discussions with MDC about the old allotments site off Broadway
- Discussions with SCC about Frome's Speed Indicator Device (SID)
- Discussions with MDC about Wild about Frome extending across the town
- Scoping a Wild about Trees planting project for the town
- Preparation for the fireworks display at the Showfield and the town's Christmas event

Coming soon

- **Apple Day** event at the Showfield on Sunday 20 October
- Fireworks at the Showfield on Saturday 2 November
- Final design and the planning application for a net roof on the sports court at Mary Baily
- Re-pointing the walls around Welshmill play area
- A new gate for the North Parade allotment site



Day to day

- Grass cutting
- Keeping paths clear
- Play checks
- The Market Place fountain
- Watering and feeding plants and establishing trees
- Watering and TLC for the summer flowers, including the bed on North Parade
- Hedge cutting
- Pruning shrubs and general tree works

August through to October (and into November) can be a very busy time on the ground.

Nesting season has finished so hedge cutting, autumn pruning, and tree works start again. (Hopefully finishing before the leaves start to fall in earnest.)

But the grass will still be growing so grass cuts continue, sometimes into November depending on the weather.

Watering the outgoing seasonal flowers also overlaps at this time.

And typically, the weather is more impactful on planned work and schedules: wetter, colder, and in recent years, more unpredictable.

