#### Agenda Item 4

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

- Fireworks at the Old Showfield
- Apple Day at the Old Showfield, including juicing people's apples
- Other events and activities in the parks and green spaces, including Frome Carnival
- Parkrun Frome; we've run this a) because it's a brilliant community event and a good way to stay fit & healthy and b) to make sure it's all working well at the Showfield
- The new gate at the North Parade allotments site
- Hanging a willow sculpture over the river by Rodden Meadow
- The Christmas tree is up in the town centre
- The Rangers have replaced the vandalised noticeboard in Rodden Meadow
- We've checked and filled all the grit bins around the town (just in case...)

## Ongoing

- Discussions with MDC about Egford Lane and the old allotments site off Broadway
- Discussions with SCC about Frome's Speed Indicator Device (SID)
- Discussions with SCC and residents about the streetlights in West End
- Early discussions with SCC about their new Snow Warden scheme
- More detailed work scoping the Wild about Trees planting project
- Thinking about a new design for the low fence that runs along Chateau-Gontier Walk
- Gates for the play area at the Old Showfield
- Contacting nearby towns and villages with new(ish) skateparks, including Warminster

## Coming soon

- The town's Christmas lights will be going up soon
- Winter mulch for the establishing trees around the parks
- Some TLC for the benches at Millennium Green; and cleaning the stone monument
- Replacing the vandalised bin in Rodden Meadow
- Sharing what people have told us about Chapmans Close so far



# Day to day

- Keeping paths clear
- Play checks
- The Market Place fountain
- Hedge cutting
- Pruning shrubs and general tree works
- Leaf clearance

We're moving into autumn and winter now; so, the significant change in the Rangers' day to day work is clearing the leaves. This is a time-consuming and sometimes thankless task; but one that we try to keep on top of until all the leaves have fallen.

Our priority is the hard-surfaced paths that we look after. We're not responsible for the leaves that fall on the pavements and roads in the town.

