

Agenda Item 6

For information - An update on the town's parks and green spaces

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This report provides a summary of 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 concise 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 weather and tricky ground conditions can get in the way of this, of course; and the pandemic and the lockdown continue to impact our work.

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. Naturally and necessarily, we balance how much time we spend on upkeep with time spent on improvements.



Recently completed

- In line with Government guidance, we've re-opened the skatepark and the sports court at Mary Baily plus our outdoor gyms at the Showfield and Tower View
- The timber posts around Tower View have been finished (with a couple of larger way-marker posts as well). We've also added some new benches in this space
- Hedge planting and a new boules court at Packsaddle play area
- A new bin for New Road play area plus a Share box here
- New Ranger-made benches for the south-east corner of Rodden Meadow
- A community meeting to discuss ideas and plans for Egford Lane
- And a dedicated webinar to find out more about Tiny Forests

Ongoing

- Carrying on the community conversations about ideas for Egford Lane
- We're arranging repairs to some of the play nets in Welshmill play area
- Working on the town's Play Strategy
- We've started a conversation with the Frome & District Angling Club, which has asked about the possibility of obtaining fishing rights for FTC's riverside paths and spaces
- We've been looking at the safety of our riverbanks – and we've put some additional timber fencing in places like Weylands and Rodden Meadow



Coming soon

- Hopefully, the return of Frome's parkrun to the Showfield
- And the return of the Discovery volunteers to help the Rangers with conservation tasks
- Repairs to the vandalised wall by Welshmill pump track
- More Ranger-made benches
- The planters going back on the railings near Fat Radish

Day to day

- Grass cutting
- Summer flowers in the town centre
- Park checks and play checks
- Play repairs, upkeep and TLC
- The Market Place fountain

Lastly, we've also received reports of horses being ridden in Victoria Park and at the Showfield. Certainly not an everyday occurrence - or something that we have reported often - but it isn't something that we permit, and we'll follow up on any other reports that come in.

