

Agenda Item 7

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

- We've officially completed the transfer of Egford Lane from MDC to FTC - with thanks to all involved, including the Friends of Egford Lane
- And with the transfer finalised... we've put in a community noticeboard and Share box near the play area
- Re-painted the gates to Victoria Park
- The damaged wall by the pump track at Welshmill has been repaired by a local stonemason (although frustratingly, this just seemed to prompt more damage to different sections of the wall further along)
- Met with Earthwatch at Egford Lane to continue planning Frome's Tiny Forest
- Put in a low fence around the bandstand in Victoria Park to protect the planting while it's establishing
- Resumed our Discovery Rangers sessions – with our Trainee Ranger helping to run these

Ongoing

- Carrying on the community conversations about ideas for Egford Lane
- Community conversations at Packsaddle – about the possibility of a sand pit for the play area – and at Chapmans Close – to discuss next steps for the space
- Early preparations for our national playday event at Mary Baily on Wednesday 4 August
- Working with the Police on reports of anti-social behaviour, including vandalism
- Talking to specialist companies about the management options for the Japanese knotweed that we've found on the riverbanks by Welshmill woods and off Henley Way



Coming soon

- Hopefully, the return of parkrun to the Showfield (now planned for Saturday 24 July)
- New bins for Egford Lane
- Repairs to the newly vandalised wall by Welshmill pump track
- A sand pit in Victoria Park (in the picnic and play area)
- Picnic in the Meadow on Sunday 11 July

Day to day

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



