

Agenda Item 3

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. Naturally, weather and ground conditions can get in the way of this. The pandemic is now having less of an impact on our work outdoors, though.

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. Necessarily, we balance how much time we spend on upkeep with time spent on improvements.



Recently completed

- Supported and organised activities and events in the town's parks and green spaces
- Including Picnic in the Meadow, playday and the Children's Festival
- Helped to create a sensory trail around Welshmill
- Sourced hazel poles for den-making opportunities in Welshmill woods
- The Rangers have designed and built a sandpit for Packsaddle play area in conjunction with the Packsaddle residents
- Seen parkrun return to the Showfield
- Edged the sandpit at Weshmill play area

Ongoing

- Carrying on the community conversations about ideas for Egford Lane
- Community conversations at Chapmans Close – to discuss next steps for the space
- Working with the Police on reports of anti-social behaviour, including vandalism
- Looking at the possibility of adding festive lights to Palmer Street
- Designing the blossom circle for the Showfield



Coming soon

- A new town centre bin for the bottom of the church steps by St John's
- New bins where the Mendip Way comes into Frome off Wallington Way
- A community event at the Showfield to include Apple Day celebrations and planting the town's Blossom circle
- Looking at repair options for the fire-damaged play tunnel at Welshmill play area

Day to day

- Grass cutting
- Watering – flowers and trees
- Park checks and play checks
- Play repairs, upkeep and TLC
- The start of hedge cutting season



A strategic pause for our management and improvement plans

We've chosen to pause the reviews of our management and improvement plans for the moment.

This is to allow for further work on the town's play strategy; and for discussion about the declared climate and ecological emergencies; all of which are expected to have important impacts and implications for how we choose to look after the town's parks and green spaces going forward.