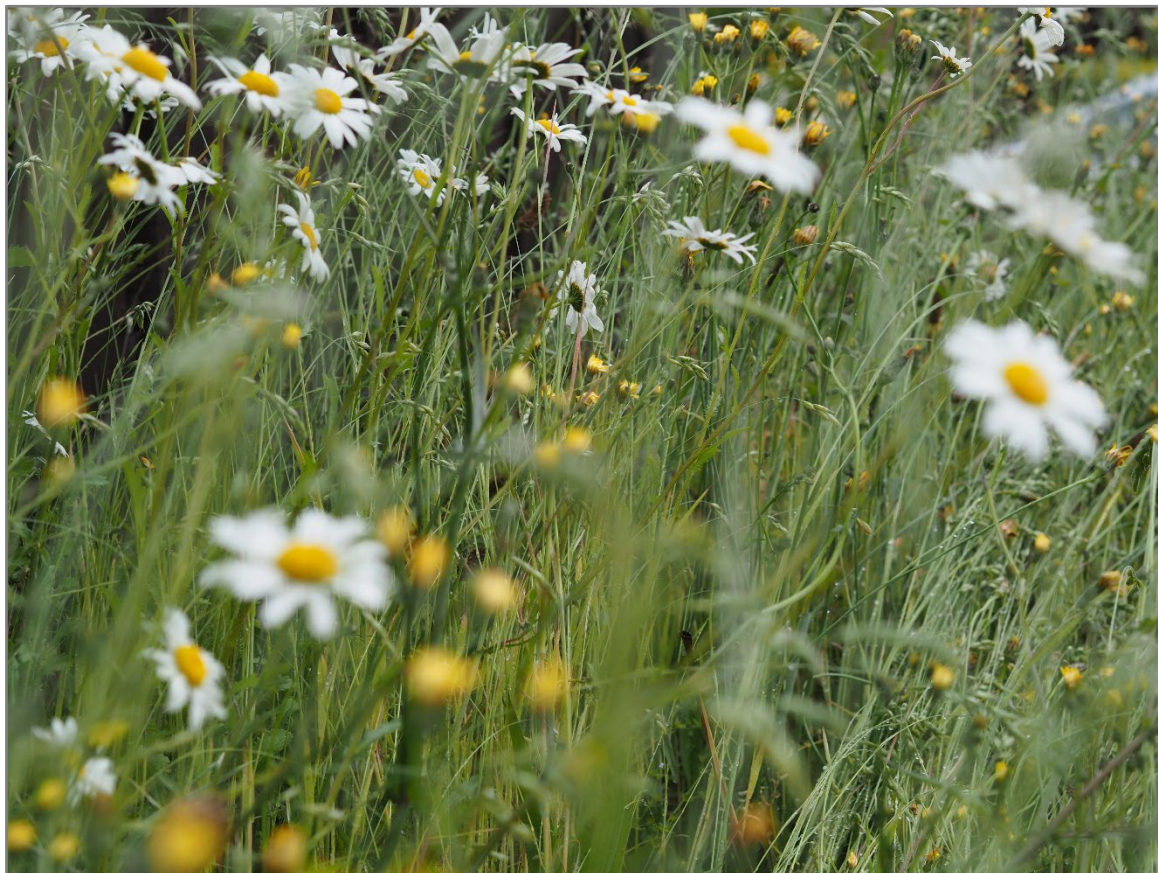


Agenda item 5

For decision - Management & Improvement plans for New Road, North Parade, Packsaddle and the Roundhouse

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Summary

This report introduces the new Management & Improvement Plans for New Road, North Parade, Packsaddle and the Roundhouse.

These plans replace the previous plans for these spaces.

Each plan is scheduled to be reviewed again in two years' time – in summer 2024.

Background

We prepare and review plans for the management and improvement of all the parks and green spaces that we look after.

These plans are discussed and then formally approved by the Council Matters committee; with reviews every year; or every other year (varying by space)

The new plans for these four spaces can be viewed here:

[New Road – view on the website here](#)

[North Parade – view on the website here](#)

[Packsaddle – view on the website here](#)

[The Roundhouse – view on the website here](#)

By design, the format of our plans is repeated across all the parks and green spaces that we look after. The plans include information like the main habitat typology and a management summary.

The management summary is particularly important to the plans since this shapes and influences much of our work.

The plans aren't intended to be daunting or overly technical. Rather, we hope that our plans are straightforward and engaging - and that they encourage people to head outdoors to explore Frome's parks and green spaces.

The plans now include information about who we work with in these spaces (and thereby, how people can get more involved with these spaces)

This information is included below the management summary.



Next steps

We've worked with community groups in all four of these spaces over the last two to three years, completing a variety of projects.

Including:

- Tree planting and hedge planting at Packsaddle
- New play opportunities – including boules – also at Packsaddle
- A wildlife pond and habitat by the Roundhouse
- A Share box and a community gardening project at New Road
- Community stewardship of the woods at North Parade
- Bird boxes, bat boxes and hedgehog houses at North Parade, Packsaddle and the Roundhouse
- Areas of wildflowers, shrub planting and longer grass as part of Wild about Frome

As such - and by virtue of all the work that's happened – we don't have any significant projects, changes or improvements lined up for any of these spaces at this time.

This is reflected in the next steps – and is one of the reasons these spaces have been grouped together for this review.

What this means is that our time and efforts for the foreseeable future will be focused on the maintenance and upkeep of these spaces (rather than doing anything new)

Importantly though, we'll continue to have conversations with the community about these spaces – and this could see new ideas and opportunities come forward in time.

As and when this happens, we'll consider these ideas in the context of our overarching strategies and aims, like the Play Strategy and our Wild about Trees project; and in the context of the management summary for each space.

Site risk assessments

The Council Matters committee also discusses and approves all of the site risk assessments relating to the management plans. This reflects the Council's commitment to providing the town with important and relevant information about how we look after the spaces that we've been entrusted with.

By discussing and approving site risk assessments in this way, we are providing a clear and complete picture of what we do.

The site risk assessments for these spaces can be found here:

[New Road – view on the website here](#)

[North Parade – view on the website here](#)

[Packsaddle – view on the website here](#)

The Roundhouse – [The Roundhouse wildlife pond assessment sheet](#)

- [The Roundhouse \(and wildlife pond\) risk assessment](#)

- [The Otherside riverside path risk assessment](#)

Recommendations

1. Adopt the updated management plans for all four spaces
2. Adopt the new site risk assessments for these spaces
3. Approve the scheduled review dates for the plans
4. Approve the scheduled annual review of the site risk assessments
5. Delegate responsibility to the Environment Manager to deliver the plans
6. Delegate responsibility to the Environment Manager to keep the site risk assessments up to date in-between approval and the (scheduled) annual reviews