

Agenda item 4

For information - Review of Nurture Open Spaces Work Programme

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Highlights Summary

- Ranger team back to full strength, fully trained
- Frome Town Centre Ranger started 16 October – base being set up at Cheese and Grain
- Works to improve Broadway Community Garden well under way – vegetation clearance and path installed (halfway through Phase 1 to the communal area from Oakfield). Next step is to liaise with Broadway residents to clarify boundary location.
- Reviewing options with Agricultural Society and Cricket Club to manage Car Park, Office, Green Shed and Cricket Pavilion and Green. Negotiations ongoing.
- Path works to Egford Park
- Hilux vehicle is proving to be invaluable (Egford, Showfield Play Project, Drone, Broadway)
- Community Woodland – discussions reached a key point, seeking clarity from owners

Discussion topics

- Open Spaces that could be taken on from SC under the banner devolution banner. Rob will provide a map and list of possible sites at the meeting

Open Spaces Programme:

Project	Update	Status
Convene people who use our open spaces to ensure existing groups are represented but also to reach out to other users whom we have not yet engaged	Engaging with local residents to undertake management plan reviews for each site. Showfield is first site. Play Area plans based on community input. Showfield Management plan review in Feb 24. Mary Baily/Vic Park May 24	
Work with the forum to consider resident involvement in the maintenance and development of open spaces	Ditto above	
Identify open spaces that we want to take on during the creation of the new Unitary	Updated review of possible land to be taken from SC. FTC and other Town/Parish councils actively exploring with Somerset County what devolution might look like Possibility of proposals/change happening quickly, with resulting cost and staffing implications. FTC need to be ready for quick response	
Consider how FTC would service and maintain a growing number of open spaces	Review of capacity and funding in relation to all new asset acquisition Ranger team back up to full capacity including new Town Centre Ranger (started 16 Oct 23)	
Work with housing and planning to agree which open spaces should be maintained and which could be made available for housing	Ongoing	
Ensure our parks and open spaces are places that people value highly to enjoy, are accessible and inclusive, and support a wide range of outdoor activities and bio-diversity	Review of management plans to ensure inclusivity Football pitches and new paths - Egford DFTC taken on direct governance of Millennium Green Play Park Showfield – nearing completion, open 30 Nov, Café and toilet refurbishment in Victoria Park, Chess club benches Vic Park, park benches x 6 across the estate Memorial benches Vic Parkx2 and Showfield x1, Tennis club Floodlights Mary Baily, CCTV Victoria Park, Biodiversity assessed through iNaturalist record keeping Town Centre Ranger – Started 16 October, base by Cheese and Grain being set-up, G2 electric vehicle arriving shortly Reviewing options of working with Ag Soc at Showfield, negotiations ongoing River habitat management at Rodden Meadow	

	Broadway Community Garden – Path, Noticeboard, Signs, Vegetation clearance Welshmill Woods – Fairy door trail and consultation on incidental play	
Other - Collaboration with partner agencies on land, works and maintenance across Open Spaces and the town	Ongoing as discussions arise Working with Frome Medical Practice (including laying of boundary hedge) Possible exploration of community woodland site – discussions	