

Agenda item 5

For information - Review of Nurture Open Spaces Work Programme

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The work programme is on track – see table below. Key highlights:

- Henley Way – Steps have been installed, connecting footpath and surrounding area enhanced, improvements made to path on Welshmill side, Plan for better signage
- Mary Baily following adoption of management plans a range of improvements have taken place including: zip wire, codesign project commissioned, skatepark proposal adopted at council, pocket meadows planting, new service tap for watering installed
- Victoria Park: sail shade in toddler play area, tender of respray of mower shed mural, carving of large trunk into sculpture bench and table, table tennis table, makeover to 'Poland' corner (including new flowerbed)
- Broadway – Pond works finished (though liner has puncture). Plans for compost toilet installation
- Boyle's Cross Fountain re-lined
- Town Centre – Street Sweeper now fully operational, planters make-over, library bench replaced
- Devolution – FTC is now managing all the agreed sites for devolution. Legal transfer is imminent
- Work to set up St John's community project
- 2nd Grillo (ride on mower) is bought and operational
- Proposal for compact tractor brought to this committee
- Depot is now fully operational with all remedial works needed for year 1 complete and new roller shutter doors, secure pedestrian door and alarms.
- Ranger base has been made secure including a major overhaul of doors, locks. Last phase is improvements to alarms
- Adderwell has now been bought, management plan brought to this meeting for adoption, access works started and work on invasive plants undertaken. Drafty management plan produced.
- Community Woodland – Horses removed, land made secure and advanced planning for October reseedling from 27 Oct (by horse) and March tree planting
- Nature Recovery Plan – workshops and community engagement has been undertaken. Report being worked on.
- Wild about trees review – 1,071 trees planted in 24/25



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	Community led Skatepark proposal adopted by Council on 27 Aug 25 Co-design project for Mary Baily installation has been commissioned and is underway Work to community tested management plans for Mary Baily and Victoria park well advanced (see full list of recent changes above) Support to set up Community Growing area at St Johns Mgmt. Plans for Mary Baily and Vic Park brought to March 25 Oversight Community lead Skatepark project being reviewed before being brought to full council Co-design project with young people for Mary Baily brought to March 25 Oversight	
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	Land for transfer from SC under active FTC mgmt. since 1 Jun. Legal transfer imminent	
Consider how FTC would service and maintain a growing number of open spaces	2 nd Grillo Purchased. Compact Tractor for hedge and general works management before committee. Fencing works due to start to play areas . Depot now fully operational Ranger base made secure following break in	
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	Adderwell land purchased and management for access and biodiversity started (community day removing invasive Himalayan balsam) Nature recovery plan – community workshops undertaken and plan in preparation Pond at Broadway Community Gardens	

	Wild about trees – 1,071 trees planted in FY 24/25	
Other - Collaboration with partner agencies on land, works and maintenance across Open Spaces and the town	Active programme of works in town centre including planters, benches and screens for rubbish Street Sweeper in active use Repair works to Boyles Cross fountain including waterproof lining and repairs to water damaged stonework	