

Comparison of digital asset management systems

Service provider	Overview	Description	Pros	Cons	Comments
Civic.ly	Civic.ly is a purpose-built asset management system designed specifically for town and parish councils.	Description: Civic.ly is a purpose-built daily operational platform specifically designed for town and parish councils. It seamlessly integrates advanced mapping, comprehensive asset documentation, and intelligent task management into a single, intuitive interface. The system connects all stakeholders—office staff, maintenance teams, and contractors—through a powerful notification engine that ensures critical tasks are never overlooked. With Civic.ly, councils can effectively manage all their assets while maintaining compliance with relevant regulations, all without the complexity of enterprise solutions or the limitations of generic tools.	Designed specifically for town and parish council needs. Complete management of inspections, maintenance, and defects in one system Automated reminders and notifications for critical tasks Built-in awareness of all regulations related to health and safety Built-in routine and operational checklists for inspections (example) Geographical mapping with GPS photo integration Serves office staff, maintenance teams and contractors from a single platform AI-powered asset classification and visual condition assessments User-friendly mobile interface for field work Asset lifecycle management with financial planning tools Appropriate pricing structure for town and parish councils	Newer to the market than some alternatives May have more features than the smallest councils require	Civic.ly addresses the specific challenges town and parish councils face in managing diverse public assets across multiple locations. It serves as a true daily operational platform that connects all staff involved in asset management—from office administrators to field maintenance teams to external contractors.
Parish Online	A mapping system with limited capability to manage the full asset life cycle for local councils.	Parish Online is primarily a mapping and digital mapping tool for visualising and managing geospatial data. It's good for councils prioritising neighbourhood planning, boundary disputes, public consultations, flood risk assessment and many more geographic queries.	Designed specifically for parish and town councils Strong mapping and digital mapping capabilities Extensive Integration with Ordnance Survey data Includes map data from Local Authorities (where available) Good for planning and consultation purposes Appropriate pricing for smaller councils Good community of users	GIS-type user interface is not the easiest to use No mobile app for field work	
PSS Live			Specialised for playground inspections and compliance	Only focused on play equipment rather than all council assets	

	A playground inspection and asset management system focused on play equipment.	PSS Live is a sector-specific solution that specialises in playground safety inspections and asset management for play equipment and recreational facilities.	Mobile inspection capabilities	Limited capabilities for managing buildings, open spaces, and other infrastructure	PSS Live excels at managing play equipment safety but has a narrower focus than what most councils need for comprehensive asset management. It's excellent for its specific purpose but may require complementary systems for managing other types of council assets.
			Good documentation for safety audits	Narrower scope than comprehensive asset management solutions	
			Specific to EN1176 and EN1177 standards	Less suitable for councils with diverse asset portfolios beyond play areas	
			Risk assessment tools		
			Evidence recording for insurance purposes		
SafetyCulture	A safety and quality management platform with inspection capabilities.	SafetyCulture is a CMMS (Computerised Maintenance Management System) solution primarily focused on safety inspections and compliance checks. It offers comprehensive inspection templates and tracking.	Strong inspection and checklist functionality	Limited asset lifecycle management	While SafetyCulture excels at inspections, it lacks the comprehensive asset management capabilities councils need. It's like having an excellent safety inspector without the systems to track what happens with those inspection results over time or plan for future asset needs.
			Easy to use Mobile app for field work	Charges per a user, which makes it expensive to roll out to staff, contractors and volunteers	
			Document storage capabilities	Not specifically designed for council assets	
			Good photo documentation features	Lacks dedicated mapping capabilities for dispersed assets	
				Requires custom setup for council-specific compliance	
				Limited financial planning tools for asset replacement	
MaintainX	A maintenance management system used by various industries.	MaintainX is a CMMS solution designed for maintenance teams to manage work orders, preventive maintenance, and asset tracking. It's primarily targeted at industrial and facility management.	Comprehensive work order management	Designed for manufacturing, hospitality and facilities, not public infrastructure	MaintainX works well for factories and warehouses with equipment maintenance needs, but council assets operate in a different regulatory environment with unique public safety requirements. Using MaintainX for council asset management is like using hospital management software to run a school – the core functions don't align with the specific needs.
			Preventive maintenance scheduling	Lacks geographical mapping for dispersed outdoor assets	
			Team communication tools	Charges per a user, which makes it expensive to roll out to staff, contractors and volunteers	
			Mobile application for field work	Requires significant configuration for council-specific needs	
			Digital procedure documentation	Not pre-loaded with council compliance requirements	
				Limited long-term asset planning capabilities	

				Interface complexity requires substantial training	
Trello	A general project management tool that some councils adapt for asset tracking.	Trello is a "DIY solution" that offers customisable boards, lists, and cards for organising information. While not designed for asset management, its flexibility allows basic tracking of assets and related tasks.	Low cost (free tier available)	Not designed for asset management	While Trello works well for project management, it simply wasn't built for the complexities of council asset management. Without features like compliance tracking, asset lifecycle management, and geographical mapping, councils must create extensive workarounds that ultimately prove inefficient and incomplete.
			User-friendly interface	Lacks geographical mapping for council assets	
			Good for task management	No built-in compliance frameworks	
			Easy collaboration capabilities	No automated scheduling for inspections	
				Limited reporting capabilities for council requirements	
				Requires significant customisation to adapt for council use	
Everything I own	A personal asset tracking solution occasionally used by small organisations.	Everything I Own is a basic asset tracker designed primarily for personal use. It provides a digital inventory system with basic categorisation and photo storage capabilities.	Simple interface	Designed for personal use, not organisational asset management	This solution lacks the features councils need for regulatory compliance and maintenance tracking. It's equivalent to using a personal checkbook to manage council finances – technically possible, but missing critical functionality and controls required for public asset management.
			Photo documentation capabilities	No task or maintenance scheduling	
			Basic inventory management	Lacks compliance frameworks needed for council assets	
			Low cost	No mapping capabilities	
				Limited reporting options	
				Not built for multi-user collaboration	
Symology	An enterprise-level asset management system used by larger councils.	Symology is an enterprise solution offering comprehensive infrastructure asset management for highways and public infrastructure. It provides sophisticated tools for asset lifecycle management and maintenance.	Comprehensive asset management capabilities	Prohibitively expensive for most town and parish councils	Symology is designed and priced for county and unitary authorities with extensive infrastructure and dedicated technical teams. For town and parish councils, it's massively over-engineered and unaffordable – like buying a commercial airliner when you need a family car. The system complexity creates more problems than it solves for smaller councils, as staff would spend more time managing the system than managing actual assets.
			Strong GIS and mapping functionality	Extremely complex implementation requiring dedicated IT resources	
			Detailed reporting and analytics	Very steep learning curve with extensive training needed	
			Regulatory compliance features	Functionality vastly exceeds what smaller councils typically need	
			Designed specifically for public infrastructure	Ongoing consultancy costs for configuration and support	
				Resource-intensive to maintain and operate	
				Interface designed for technical specialists, not general council staff	