



Oyez!

March 2006

**Axbridge T. C.
INFORMS
You
FOR FREE**

Delivery of "Oyez"



This month's copy of "Oyez" may have been delivered to your door, by Town Councillors and volunteer residents.

If you **collected** it as usual, that is because we need **more volunteers** to distribute just 20 or 30 copies/month each.

Will you help in your area? Please contact Cllr. Paul Passey 733373 or paul@westmead31me17.freeseve.co.uk.

CRIS Project

The CRIS Youth Project's last session will be on April 12th. Youngsters will be making a public presentation about their work over the months. Look out for the posters and the invitation to attend.

Council to review use of Furlong

The Council agreed to support Axbridge Cricket Club's aim to play cricket in the town. The club's request for help in erecting practice nets on the Furlong would be discussed again, after a review has been done on the present and likely future use of the field. It was recognised that there was increasing pressure on the limited space available.

Nominations for Mayor

As Cllr. Tony Wilson's term of office as Mayor is coming to an end, **Councillor Barry Hamblin** was nominated as the **Mayor** of Axbridge for 2006/7. **Councillor Mike Taylor** was nominated to be the **Deputy Mayor** for the same period.

Houlgate Twinning

The Axbridge Twinning Association now has around 50 paid-up members and is looking forward to another cross-Channel trip this summer. The Council agreed to contact its civic counterpart in Houlgate to try to re-invigorate the French committee.

Fair-trade in the Cheddar Valley

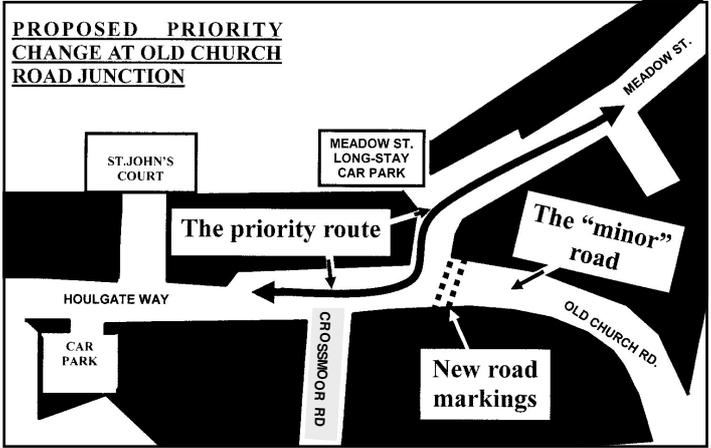
The Mayor reported on the "Help Make Poverty History" Working Group's activities. One aim was to support the Fair Trade scheme in the locality. Axbridge Town Council had already pledged to use Fair Trade products in events, over which it had some control.

Axbridge Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber's Steering Group, chaired by Robert Talloch of Compton House, is now ready to present its draft constitution for ratification by members. All local businesses, large or small, are invited to join. Contact Carole Hamblin by e-mail at: rhem@onetel.net

News from the Museum

The Museum Trust has rented the Old Court House room in the Town Hall as extra display space. A grant of £5,000 has been obtained to refurbish display cases. The official opening of the Museum for the 2006 season will be at 10.00 a.m. on April 1st.



Proposed change of road priority in Old Church Road

In accordance with its adopted Public Transport Policy, to ease the passage of buses through the town, the Town Council is to ask Somerset County Council to **consider** changing the road priority in Old Church Road. Councillors believe that it might help if Meadow Street into Houlgate Way were the "main road"; and Old Church Road from the school were the "minor road". The priority at Houlgate Way and West St. would remain as it is. Your views are welcomed as the Council considers this further.

Jubilee Road hedgerow

At the Town Council's request, the top of the bank alongside Jubilee Road has been planted with native hedgerow species. Sedgemoor District Council will manage and maintain it.

Police parking report

The police reported that **more than a dozen parking tickets and warnings** have been issued in Axbridge during the last month - in St. Mary's Street, High Street, Houlgate Way, Knightstone Close, Orchard Road and of course the Square. Councillors were pleased with the enforcement of parking regulations.

Somerset Showcase

Sedgemoor District Council may not contribute to the Somerset Showcase, but the Committee will press ahead with its planning; which may have to include some fund-raising during the summer.

The Losers' Corner

**Found something?
Lost something?**

**Well here's the place
for it!**

**The Axbridge Lost
Property Box is in the
Co-Op Store.**



Property not claimed within a few weeks will go to a local charity shop.

Resident's concerns (1) The Council was addressed by Mr. Harry Mottram of Old Church Road about problems arising from youngsters playing football in the road. The general nuisance caused to his family and others had prompted him to write to neighbours, to contact the local police and seek the support of the Town Council in combating what he described as anti-social behaviour.

Council unanimously agreed to support his plea to the police for assistance in this matter.

Resident's idea (2) Following on from the very successful pantomime, performed by the Axbridge Community Theatre group, Mr. Roger Parker asked the Council to consider how, and where, a more spacious Community Centre might be built in the town. He felt that the Town Hall was no longer a convenient venue for theatrical productions.

As the need for a Community Centre had been raised within the Parish Plan, councillors felt that any further discussion should be left until the Plan was finalised.

Residents' request (3) Two members of the Axbridge Cricket Club also addressed the Council in support of their initiative to erect cricket "nets" on the Furlong and to promote cricket in the town.

**DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS, IDEAS, REQUESTS?
ANY RESIDENT MAY ADDRESS THE COUNCIL.
3 MINUTES SET ASIDE FOR YOU TO SPEAK.
MAKE SUGGESTIONS.
ASK QUESTIONS.**

IT'S YOUR TOWN COUNCIL AND YOUR TOWN

**Date of next meeting is Monday 10th. April 2006 at
7.30 p.m. in the Town Hall.**

Note: THIS MONTH IT IS 2ND. MONDAY

"Jack Todd Changing Rooms"

Following the resignation of Jim Ramadan, Mike Campbell has been appointed Changing Rooms Manager as from April 1st. Also he will inspect the children's play area in the Furlong on a weekly basis.

Council agreed to renew the Changing Rooms cleaning contract with Sedgemoor District Council.

Town Council's Parking Policy

Councillors approved an amended Parking Policy document. This sets out the guiding principles for its discussions with Sedgemoor and Somerset Councils, who largely dictate charges and use of car-parks, or the regulations governing on-street parking.

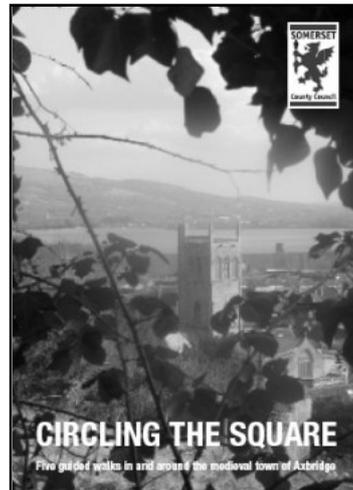
The main purposes are to be consistent when dealing with parking matter and to try to improve the parking provision around the town for both residents and visitors.

New application at "The Crown" A new outline application had been received for a 2 storey dwelling house on land at the rear of "The Crown Inn". This follows the withdrawal of a previous application for flats on the land. The plans will be discussed at the next Planning Committee Meeting on **April 3rd.**

Heavy lorry problem Councillors agreed to press ahead with the proposed weight restriction on Cheddar Road and also to seek Somerset's approval for a change to the signs on the A371 from Cheddar.



It was felt that the main sign should make it clear that passing through the Square is not the best way to the M5! The smaller lorry route sign should encourage drivers to bear right along the by-pass.



A local walks guide, "Circling the Square", which describes 5 walking routes starting and ending in the Square, and which informs visitors about the town, will be available from a variety of local outlets next month.

This free guide is published by Axbridge Town Council and funded largely by grant from Somerset Council.

Date for your Diary

Axbridge Town Council's Annual Assembly
24th. April 2006 - 7.30 p.m. - Town Hall

At this meeting reports are presented, which set out the Council's activities during the past year. All voters are invited to attend - an opportunity to discover how your Town Council carries out its business on your behalf.

This newsletter and other local information can be found on the Town Council's website

www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk

Any elector, who wants information, or who has any issue to put before the Council should contact:

Town Clerk, Mrs Vicky Brice.

Telephone number: 07884 264033