



# Oyez!

Axbridge Town  
Council news

October 2006

**The Headteacher and two Axbridge School Governors** attended the October Town Council meeting and set out clearly the position taken by the Governing Body on the possibility of building a new First School on a larger site. The Governors supported the suggestion in principle but wished to point out the many difficulties that would have to be overcome for such a project to succeed.

The Councillors, who have not yet discussed this idea formally, agreed to place it on next month's agenda so that a list of further facts and required information could be established.

.....

The Council has established an advisory committee, **The Axbridge Youth Partnership**, which will work with other agencies and individuals responsible for youth provision in the town - Somerset Youth Service, Guides, junior sport teams, police etc.. The main aim is to gain a clear understanding of the needs of youngsters in our community and to try to ensure that everything possible is done to promote purposeful activities to involve youth in Axbridge.

.....

Planning **Somerset Showcase 2007 has begun**. The date for this event has been set as Saturday September 1st. 2007.

.....

**The Parish Plan Steering Committee** chairman explained to Council that a "**Muster Meeting**" would be organised for November 14th.. Volunteers would be sought to help with aspects of the Parish Plan, not covered by the Town Council's own committees. 52 townsfolk had said they wanted to be more involved when responding to the Parish Plan questionnaire.

.....

**The Twinning Association's visit to Houlgate** is still planned for the weekend of 24th. November. There are still places available and anyone interested should contact through [www.axbridge-twinning.org.uk](http://www.axbridge-twinning.org.uk)

.....

The **PCSO, Julie Lewis**, reported that during the past month she had issued a number of warnings to motorists in respect of parking.

Council agreed to the Promotion Advisory Committee (APAC) investigating the possibility of erecting **4 carved boundary stones** at the extremities of the parish. There were found to be no official boundary markers when the "Beating of the Bounds" took place earlier this year. Also APAC will investigate the practicality of erecting stones at each town entrance with the town name and logo. Sponsors will be sought.

APAC will also carry out investigations into the possibility of establishing an **online webcam** to transmit live digital pictures, via a broadband connection. This would enable anyone to see what activities are taking place in the Square. This would have advantages for tourism and perhaps for minimising anti-social behaviour. This would **not** be Closed Circuit Television and individuals could **not** be identified from the small pictures transmitted.

.....

A meeting between **Town Council and Town Trust** will take place to discuss a number of issues of mutual interest. These will include Town Hall finances, activities in the Square and the use of civic regalia.

.....

The following organisations, which were seen as valuable to Axbridge residents, were made **grants from the Council's funds**: Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (£100), Vitalise (helps disabled and their carers - £25), Victim Support (£25), Citizens Advice Bureau (£25), Relate (£25) and Age Concern (£25).

Axbridge Sports and Social (Pauline Ham, 15 Hoppisley Drive) and The Axbridge Parochial Charities (Mrs. J. Hill, Moonacre, Hillside) also make **grants to the community**.

.....

The **Community Budget**, a sum made available to Axbridge by Somerset County Council through our County Councillor, Mrs. Dawn Hill will be directed towards the re-erection of a **kissing gate** on the Compton Lane to Prowse Lane footpath and depending upon cost two new "springy toys" will be bought for the Furlong Play area.

**Will you stand for Town Councillor in May 2007?**

Councillors considered a **Draft Budget for 2007/8**. Some items included in the draft may yet be removed or modified next month as better estimates and further information come to hand. The **Draft Precept**, the money to be raised on the town's behalf by Sedgemoor District Council was set at £46,271 (£37,500 for 2006/7). A final Budget will be agreed at the November meeting of the Council

Council agreed to sign an easement allowing the National Trust to pipe **water** across the **allotments** to Shute Shelve hill.

**Past Axbridge Mayors** will be able to purchase small badges as mementos of their time in office. Contact the Town Clerk if this applies to you.

**Somerset Highways** will not be able to consider the proposal for a central refuge on the by-pass at Hillside in its next 5-year programme.

Councillors will attend the **Remembrance Sunday Service** on 12th. November. Local uniformed organisations, led by the Royal British Legion, will also take part. Minor alterations to the parade have been agreed, but residents are still encouraged to gather in the Square at the foot of the church steps to pay their respects.

The **disabled parking bay** in the Square had now been marked, but there was no plan to remove the old parking bay lines. These would be left to wear away with time. Councillors found this an unhelpful response.

The **Old Age Pensioners' Christmas Lunch** will take place in the Town Hall on **Friday 15th. December**.



The Council is finalising **suitably worded reminders** about the parking regulations in the Square. The intention is to place the polite reminders on the wind-screens of cars that have been parked badly, **blocking the bus route**, or which may have overstayed the one hour free limit in the parking bays.

The **Axbridge Action Group** has met with the local police and now plans to hold a meeting on 28th. November to revive and re-launch the group.

The legal control over parking in the Square lies with Somerset County Council, as the Highway Authority, and the police.

The Mayor, Cllr. Baz Hamblin, as Patron, addressed the inaugural meeting of those interested in the **Axbridge Archaeological and Local History Society's Oral History Project**. He stressed the importance of recording for future generations, the voices, stories and pictures and documents of the last century to complement the more ancient Town Archive material.

During the **Public Participation** part of the meeting a member of the public asked that some effort be made to **tidy the seating area** on Houlgate Way (south of the Starrs Close junction). The seat and shrubbery is a memorial to the late Jack Todd and the Parochial Charity Trustees maintain it.

Anyone interested in working on the Project, or in providing material should come to the **next meeting on 15th. November** (7.30pm. Town Hall).

**Contact:** via the box in the Post Office or Harry Mottram 732670  
harry\_mottram@hotmail.co.uk  
Paul Passey: 733373  
paul@westmead31me17.freeserve.co.uk

Axbridge Sports and Social Club has made a donation of £500 towards the cost of the **new "Baboon"** in the Furlong Play Area.

Club members will be erecting **Christmas trees** on house frontages on 2nd. December. If you are willing to help please contact Pauline Ham - 732062

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

**[www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk](http://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**