



# Oyez!



The Council has deferred further discussion of a **possible new Primary School** until asked for help either by the School Governors or by Somerset County Council (SCC) as the two bodies most responsible for the school.

**Officers of Axbridge Cricket Club** outlined the club's programme for expansion; increase in membership, additional match fixtures, youth development policy and proposed improved facilities at the Furlong. The cost of practice nets there would be about £9,400.

The **Senior Youth Worker**, responsible for the newly-refurbished Axbridge Youth Club, Gary Hancox told the Council of his high hopes for the future of the centre and invited councillors to see for themselves the work that is done there.

Lyndia Hind, CRIS Youth Project leader, was present and was thanked for her efforts on behalf of Axbridge youngsters.

**Full copies of the Axbridge Parish Plan** may be downloaded from the Town Council website. For a paper copy contact the Town Clerk.

**The Twinning Association's visit to Houlgate** this month, will include a reception from the Mayor and members of the Twinning Committee of the French Town.

Council was told that **PCSO, Julie Lewis**, will now spend more time in Axbridge as there are more PCSO's operating from Cheddar - at no extra cost to the Town Council's budget.

Somerset County Council has voted to submit a plan to Government that the authority should become a **Unitary Authority**. All the services from Sedgemoor District Council would then be taken over by the County.

**The Police Community Support Trust** has granted £1,500 towards the cost of the proposed Youth Shelter.

Axbridge Sports and Social will be setting up **Christmas trees** on house frontages on Saturday 2nd. December from 08.30. Contact Cllr. Pauline Ham if you are willing to help - or just meet the group in the town during Saturday morning and offer your services.

Council agreed the **Budget for 2007/8. The Precept will be £46,000.** This money is collected by Sedgemoor District Council through its Council Tax. If this sum were divided equally between each Axbridge dwelling, this would amount to around **£1 per household per week.**

**King John's Hunting Lodge** (Axbridge Museum) has 3 new display cases and these will be ready for the 2007 season.

**Suitably worded reminder notices** about parking regulations in the Square will be supplied to the Axbridge Action Group.

With police agreement, these may be placed on cars parked illegally in the Square. The control over parking in the Square lies with SCC, and the police - **not** with the Town Council.

**The seating area and garden** on Houlgate Way (south of the Starrs Close junction), a memorial to the late Jack Todd, is to be re-landscaped shortly by the Parochial Charities.

The **new Clerk to the Town Trust** is Pauline Holt (713406 or paulineholt@uwclub.net)

**Axbridge Town Football Club**, wrote to explain concerns about the proposal to erect a Youth Shelter on the Furlong. Members are unhappy at the dangerous litter left by youngsters, who currently meet at the Furlong, mainly in the evenings. The Council sympathised with the frustration expressed, but felt that anti-social behaviour by a minority should not dictate how the majority of Axbridge youth is treated. The siting of the shelter will be on the agenda again for the January meeting.

**WASTE COLLECTIONS TIMES OVER CHRISTMAS?  
SEE THE TOWN COUNCIL NOTICE BOARD.**

**ELECTION DAY - MAY 3RD, 2007 - READY?**

**The SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS (OAP's) PARTY** will be in the Town Hall on **Friday 15th. December from 6 pm to 10 pm.** You can sign up at the Post Office.

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The Mayor, reported that the **Axbridge Oral History Project - "The Voices of Axbridge"** was now underway. Harry Mottram is Chairman; Paul Passey is Secretary and AALHS will oversee finances.

**For more information please contact:**  
*either Harry Mottram 732670*  
*harry\_mottram@hotmail.co.uk*  
*or Paul Passey: 733373*  
*paul@westmead31me17.freeserve.co.uk*

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Sedgemoor planners have recommended approval of an application to build **10 dwellings behind the Manor House**, High Street. It is expected that a condition of any permission will be that all valuable archaeology is first recorded and then properly protected before building work begins. Access would be through Meadow Street car-park.

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The Town Clerk will shortly **display the names and contact details for all Town Councillors** on the Town Hall notice board

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Estimates are to be sought for **new notice boards** for Town Council and general community notices. The present boards at the Town Hall are thought to be unsuitable.

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**Please note that there is usually NO COUNCIL MEETING in December. Watch the Town Hall notice board for any change.**

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The Council will ask Somerset County Council engineers to design a scheme to **improve the lighting** on the church steps and along the route from there to the Youth Club.

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**The Changing Rooms Manager** is to have his hours increased, as Sedgemoor will no longer be the cleaning contractor. A meeting between the Town Council's Leisure and Recreation Committee and the main hirers, the Saxons Football Club, is to be arranged to discuss matters of mutual interest.

**Will you stand for election and join the Town Council in 2007?**

Mrs Maggie Tur will be the Council's **Modern Town Archivist**, on a voluntary basis. (732855 - maggie.tur@btinternet.com). She will collect and preserve any materials that record day-to-day events in the town for the benefit of future historians and researchers.

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**New guidance for councillors** was adopted setting out where Advisory Group meetings might be held. These groups present reports and make recommendations to full council. Their meetings are not routinely open to the public, although they may be held in public spaces in the town and individuals may be invited to attend for their expert knowledge.

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### Calling all Axbridge Youth

I have been keeping my ear to the ground and I hear that the **BMX track** at the Furlong is not up to scratch. **If you have any ideas about what's gone wrong, email me at home, the boss won't mind.**

paul@westmead31me17.freeserve.co.uk

If there are any other matters that you youngsters want to tell the Town Council about, you can use that same email address.

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In good time for the May Town Council elections, there will be a **major effort** to inform residents of what is involved in being a councillor - leaflets, posters, Q&A sessions. If Axbridge is to become a Quality Parish Council and to take full advantage of the new moves to give more power to local councils, we need you to get involved. **What's stopping you?**

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### Festive Farmers Freebie

**The Farmers' Market on 2nd. December has a seasonal theme. There will be a free Christmas Hamper Draw at 12 noon.**

**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**

