



OYEZ!

Delivered to your door by your neighbour - for which our thanks!

March 2007

The March meeting was attended by 3 members of the public and was addressed by the Chairman of **The Axbridge Blackberry Carnival Committee**. The Council felt that the Carnival was an important aspect of town life and despite difficulties in finding volunteers to run the event and the dwindling number of floats, the event should continue. Any monies raised on the day might best be used to fund future carnivals.

The owners of the **Axbridge Nursing Home**, Almondsbury Care, had agreed to hold a meeting with Council to discuss the recent closure of the informal route through the grounds of the home. The Town Clerk would be happy to receive comments from residents adversely affected by this closure

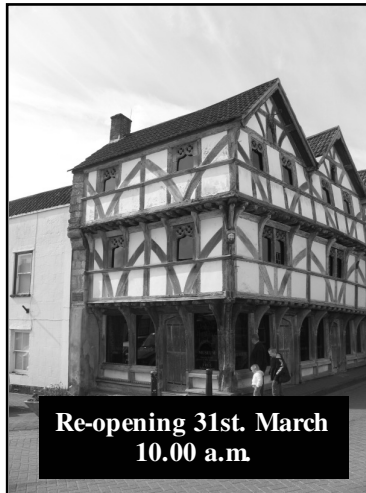
A further legal licence (which may be free) must be obtained from Somerset County Council in order to erect stone **town entrance markers**, which would delay installation.

Axbridge Action Group had received a grant towards its activities from Somerset Police.

The recent protest to Sedgemoor District Council about the poor consultation over the proposed development **on land south of Old Manor House** had resulted in a most unsatisfactory response.

Several safety options for the end of the **slip-road at Townsend** have been discussed with Somerset Highways' Officer, who will now draw up proposals. These may include more detailed pictorial signs to warn drivers of the layout of the area, a slight re-alignment of the road at the end of the slip, re-siting existing "Give Way" signs and re-painting road markings. More evidence is required about the dangers experienced at this junction.

Please continue to report ALL incidents to the Clerk for recording. See also the Notice Board on the Town Council's prize-winning website www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk.



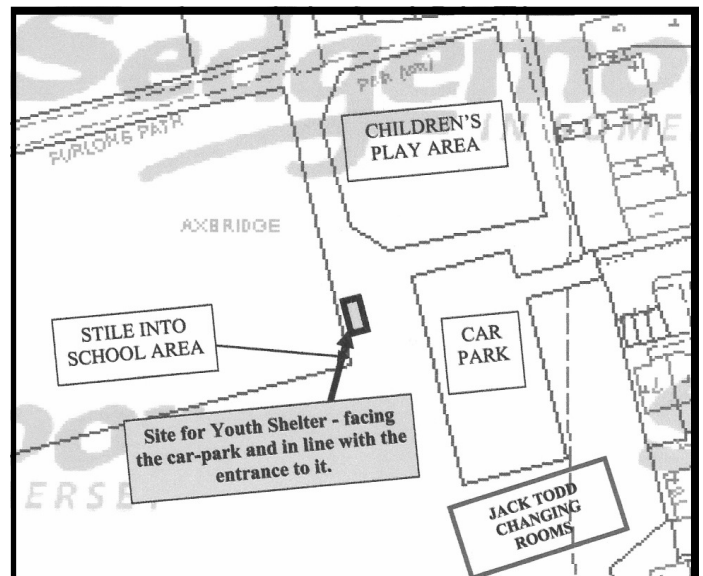
Re-opening 31st. March
10.00 a.m

Details will be on the Town Hall notice-board.

The Police reported no serious crimes in Axbridge over the past month.

The proposed Axbridge Youth "Drop-in Centre" is likely to start up in the Church Rooms after Easter.

The Council resolved that the **new Youth Shelter** will be erected on the Furlong as shown on the map below.



Sedgemoor District Council will continue to "**scavenge**" (litter-pick) in the play area on the Furlong during 2007/8 at a cost of £23.73 per week.

The Community Council for Somerset has agreed to undertake a survey of **housing needs in Axbridge**. A speaker will be at the Annual Assembly Meeting on Monday 23rd. April (7.30 p.m. - Town Hall) so why not come along and find out how this may affect you.

The Council agreed new criteria to be met by groups, businesses and individuals who wish to place information on areas of the Town Council's **prize-winning website** www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk.

Council agreed to adopt a Publications Scheme which will set out the Council's policy under the **Freedom of Information Act**.

A small sum of money remains unspent from the grant made for the production of **The Parish Plan**. Such under-spends, subject to permission, may be applied to projects arising from the Parish Plan consultation exercise. Council agreed to consider ideas for its possible use at the April meeting

A new "**jockey**" for the aerial runway in the Furlong play area will be installed at a cost of £175.00.

The new barrier between car-park and Furlong field seems effective, but must not be obstructed by cars as it is intended as the emergency entrance to the playing areas. Appropriate signs will be put in place.

The Council was extremely surprised that a **new access driveway** had been created across the grass verge and footpath at Chestnut Avenue. Councillors were told that Sedgemoor District Council viewed this as "permitted development" and Somerset Highways had expressed no objections. The lack of prior information about this work had lead to much concern and speculation.

Both District and County Councillors were to be made aware of the Council's displeasure at this failure of communication.

The **Somerset Showcase Committee** will now be regarded as a Standing Committee of the Council and as such will publicise its agenda and be open to members of the public. This will enable decisions to be made, subject to an agreed remit, without reference back to the full Council.

2 requests - if you have off-street parking, please use it, and free up our streets. If you have a dog that fouls public places, please clear up after it.

The Council's **Modern Town Archivist** had begun work. Mrs. Maggie Tur will collect material "to provide future historians and others with a variety of material which would present a picture of life in 21st. Century Axbridge". She has begun to collect newspaper cuttings, documents and photographs from individuals and organisations. She will work closely with the Axbridge Archaeological and Local History Society's "Voices of Axbridge" Project" team, which plans a fund-raising evening, "**Voices for Voices**" (cabaret, food and drink) in the Town Hall on Saturday 9th. June.

Somerset Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund exists "to provide grants to support projects, which benefit the local community". Anyone in the community can apply. Information may be found at www.somerset.gov.uk (Environment and Planning page) or from Susan Hughes 01823 358104.

The Council is in the process of contacting various local groups that provide activities for young people in preparation for the **Youth Open Day** in the Town Hall on May 5th. Groups may organise a stall or simply provide publicity material.

The details of the new footpath outside the **Old Butchers' Yard** development have been agreed by Somerset Highways. This work is expected to be completed shortly.

Somerset Highways is to undertake a review of the **yellow line markings** in the area immediately between the west end of Jubilee Road and the narrowing at the west end of St. Mary's Street. No firm proposals can be expected for some time. This will be followed by full consultation.

CONGRATULATIONS to Cllr. Taylor who was nominated as Mayor for 2007/8 and Cllr. Mrs. Browne, who was nominated as Deputy Mayor. These offices are yet to be confirmed at the Annual Council Meeting.

Issues for the Town Council? Come to Council Meetings (3rd. Monday each month 19.30 at Town Hall) or contact Mrs. Vicky Brice, the Town Clerk on 07884 264033 or email vbrice@axbridge-tc.gov.uk