



# OYEZ!

Your Town Council  
keeps you informed  
- free to your door  
**OCTOBER 2007**

The Council discussed a **draft budget** for 2008/9. It seems there is likely to be **no increase** over this year's Precept. This is the money raised on the town's behalf through Sedgemoor District Council's Council Tax.

.....

PCSO Julie Lewis reported to Council that the "**Beat Surgeries**" being held in the Town Hall have been very useful. These take place between 10.00 and 13.00 every other Wednesday. The next session will be on Wednesday 23rd. October. A "**contact box**" for residents to raise concerns, in writing, with the PCSO would be placed in one or other of the shops in the Square.

She reported that drivers illegally parked during the day on single yellow lines in **St. Mary's Street** could expect to be "ticketed". Also cars overstaying the allotted time in the Square were being targeted.

.....

Councillor Lukins told members that the **Callow Rock and Shipham Hill Quarry** Liaison Group had met recently. The quarry would consider placing hoods over the flood-lighting, but these were necessary for the 24 hour-a-day working. Another 20 years of extraction from Callow Hill was possible.

.....

The Axbridge-Houlgate **Twinning Association** will be holding an Extraordinary General Meeting on 29th. October. Insufficient support from Axbridge and less than enthusiastic involvement from Houlgate had put the future of the Twinning venture in doubt. Come along and offer your ideas.

.....

Councillors agreed that the ceremony to unveil the two new **town entrance markers** should be performed by representatives of the two main local sponsors - Yeo Valley Dairies and the Bardon Aggregates Group (quarry)

.....

Council agreed to suggest two possible venues in town for the setting up of a **public broadband** computer station - the Crown Inn and the Youth Club. These spaces will need to be investigated further by the Community Council for Somerset.

Council agreed to work with two residents, Ms. S. Laborde and Mr. M. Liebman to see what support there may be amongst residents for a "**Community Allotment**". Details would be available on the Council's stall at the November Farmers' Market.

.....

The Council, following discussions with the Town Trust, will investigate costs and designs of two new waterproof and lockable **notice boards** to be placed on the front of the Town Hall - one for Council notices and one for the community.

.....

The members agreed that the recent "**petition**" presented to the Council, signed by some 200 residents, against a suggestion that the church clock's chimes might be silenced during the night, was not in a format that would be acceptable in future.

It is intended that a sample format will be available on the Council's website, or obtainable from the Clerk.

.....

Councillors approved a **grant of £3640 to the Town Trust** to be used for maintenance of the Town Hall. The Council has powers to support public halls. This is in addition to the £1000 annual fee paid to the Trust for the Council's use of the building for meetings and civic events.

.....

The Council will make **donations** to the following organisations which serve the community: Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance (£100), Vitalise, which provides holidays for disabled people and carers (£50), Victim Support Somerset (£50), Sedgemoor Citizens Advice Bureau (£50).

**"Father Christmas Night" Dec. 22nd.**  
Children attending the First School should be automatically registered for a present. Others, resident in Axbridge (new-born to end of First School) need to be "booked-in" on forms available at the Chemist's, the Co-Op, and Axbridge Butcher's - before 17th. Nov.

Somerset County Highways has almost completed the re-alignment and re-marking of the carriageway at the **Townsend slip-road**. Some new information notices are also expected to show motorists the complicated nature of the "roundabout" and other roads in that area.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Council's Planning Committee has begun work on a "**Design Statement**" for the town. This will set out the Council's future aspirations for the development in the parish. It could be a useful tool in discussions with Sedgemoor District Council.

\*\*\*\*\*

Councillors noted a report from the **Showcase** committee and congratulated Cllr. Mrs. Trotman on her organisation of this event, but understood her decision not to continue as Chairman of this Group.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Councils Highways Advisory Committee has a **new Chairman** - Cllr. Mrs. Isaac.

\*\*\*\*\*

The **Modern Town Archivist**, Mrs. Maggie Tur, will be able to store her collected materials in the Town Hall. She will be happy to receive programmes, posters, documents from any Axbridge Group, whose activities may interest future historians.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Town Hall bookings** - there are a few regular spots and occasional evening "slots" available. Contact Dennis Bratt **732352**

\*\*\*\*\*

The Council's **Annual Audit** had been carried out by external examiners and no significant issues were raised. This is seen as a positive point in the Council's on-going bid to attain "Quality Parish Council" status.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Somerset Youth Service has suggested that if a group of parents wished to make **use of the Youth Club for younger children**, then this would be considered. For more information contact the Clerk.

\*\*\*\*\*

If anyone has a complaint or problem about **Public Footpaths** in the Parish, then please contact Cllr. Jim Lukins - **732293**

**Remembrance Day Service will be held this year on Sunday 11th. November at 11.a.m. beginning in the Square, before the War Memorial.**

At a site meeting held with Sedgemoor Officers and Members at **Harvest Rise** (Moorland Street) the Council was told that SDC were satisfied with the style and layout of the development and should a similar future development be proposed for the town, the District Council would not necessarily oppose it.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sustrans** had completed the signage for the Strawberry Line cycle route through the town from Cheddar road to Townsend and vice versa.

\*\*\*\*\*

Council would like to point out to residents that it is possible to buy **annual parking tickets** from Sedgemoor District Council.

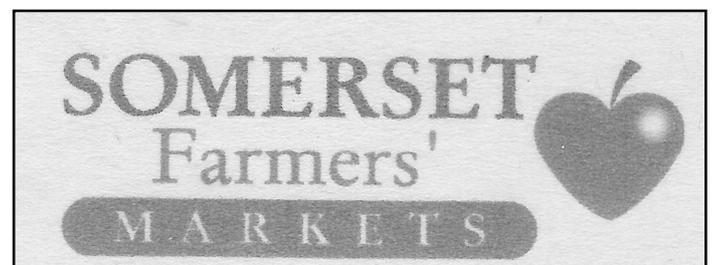
\*\*\*\*\*

**Future meetings of the Town Council will not be held in the Council Chamber** as it is not freely accessible to the disabled.

The main hall at the Town Hall, or the First School are the most likely venues.

\*\*\*\*\*

The **Axbridge Farmers' Market** takes place in the Square every first Saturday of the month. Stallholders provide local produce - meat, cheese, bread, fruit, plants - all of the highest quality. **Use it - or lose it!**



### **LENGTHSMAN WANTED**

The Council is seeking to engage a self-employed person to work as a part-time lengthsmen in the town. Further details of contract and schedule of work may be obtained from the Town Clerk.

### **Issues for the Town Council?**

Come to Council Meetings (3rd. Monday each month 19.30) **or** contact Mrs. Vicky Brice, the Town Clerk on 07884 264033 or email [vbrice@axbridge-tc.gov.uk](mailto:vbrice@axbridge-tc.gov.uk)