



# YOYEEZ!

MAY 2008  
Axbridge Town  
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### **NEW MAYOR FOR AXBRIDGE**

Councillor Mrs. Kate Browne has been installed as Mayor of Axbridge for the forthcoming year, replacing Cllr. Mike Taylor. Cllr. Mrs. Jennifer Trotman is her Deputy.

She took the ancient mayoral oath at the mayor-making ceremony on May 12th.. This was attended by members of the public and invited guests including Mayors from other Somerset towns and cities, together with councillors from other local authorities.

The Mayor will use events during her year in office to support two charities - SSAFA and Leonard Cheshire Disability.

### **CHURCH STEPS LIGHTING**

The Council at its regular May monthly meeting approved acceptance of an estimate for lighting works around the Church Steps and up towards the Youth Club access on Back Lane.

### **FARMERS' MARKET**

The Council will continue to provide a Community Stall at the Farmers' Market each month, where local non-profit making community groups can advertise their activities or have a presence.

If anyone wishes to make use of this facility they should contact the Town Clerk in the first instance.

Axbridge Church authorities have kindly agreed to lend a table to the council each month.

### **MUSEUM TRUST**

The Museum Trust is still urgently seeking additional financial support to offset the substantially reduced grant provided by Sedgemoor District Council.

### **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

The Axbridge Chamber of Commerce is holding its AGM on 9th. June at 12.30 p.m. at Compton House. Anyone interested in joining should contact the Secretary Carol Hamblin 733939.

The Chamber is holding a BBQ on 19th. July at The Parsonage from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m..

### **NEW POLICE CONTACT**

PC Tom Pether is now the Beat Manager for Axbridge and it is expected that he will meet the new Mayor shortly to discuss the council's priorities for local policing.

### **PAROCHIAL CHARITIES**

The Parochial Charities Trustees expect to start work shortly on landscaping part of the wide roadside verge at Houlgate Way, as they have done in the Jack Todd Memorial area nearby.

### **TOWN DESIGN STATEMENT**

There will be an Open Meeting to discuss the creation of a Town Design Statement in the Town Hall on June 4th at 7.30 p.m..

A Design Statement will look at the historical pattern of settlement in the town, the varieties of architecture, the preferred development areas in and around the town and other aspects that will act as a guide to individuals, developers and the planning authorities at Sedgemoor and Somerset Councils.

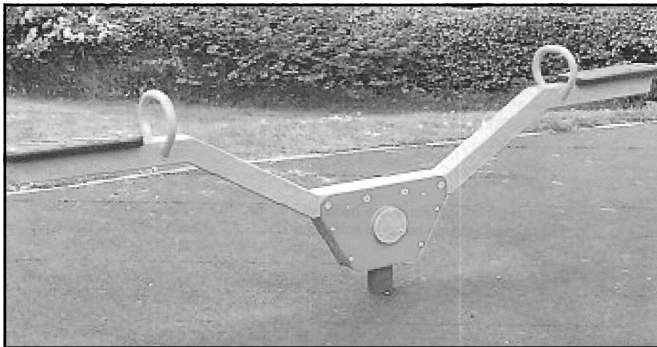
It is expected that residents of the town will play an active part in the production of a Statement.

### **COUNCIL FINANCES**

As part of the Annual Audit process the Council confirmed its acceptance of the end-of-year accounts. Electors have a right to inspect all relevant documents by arrangement with the Clerk. Details are on the Town Hall notice board.

## **GRANT TO TOWN TRUST**

Councillors approved a grant of £1820 to the Town Trust to support its management of the Town Hall. This is the first half of an annual grant as the Town Council has a statutory right to support the town hall, even though it has no management role.



## **NEW SEE-SAW**

The Council understands that the new "Rock 'n Cross" apparatus in the play area at the Furlong is unsuitable for smaller children and so has agreed to use grant funding to install a new see-saw with safety surface that will be more useful.

## **PROPOSED NEW BUS STOPS**

The Council has had drawings of possible new sites for bus stops at Townsend/Houlgate Way, at Jubilee Road and at the Barnabas Close area of Cheddar Road. There are concerns about all of the current proposals and the Highways Advisory Group will produce detailed comments for the next meeting.

Before any agreement is made with either the bus company or Somerset Highways the Council plans to hold a public consultation meeting to hear the views of residents.

## **CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY**

The Council heard that Cllr. Hamblin together with the Guides, the Archaeological and Local History Society, a local builder and a stonemason, a churchwarden and Sedgemoor District Council have agreed to both clear the churchyard of excessive growth and to make a survey of some of the gravestones for future reference.

## **AXBRIDGE IN BLOOM**

Trophies have now been provided for the "Axbridge in Bloom" competition to be judged during August. There will be winners in various categories - private house and business premises. These will be decided and announced during the Showcase on the first Saturday (6th.) September.



## **SEDGEMOOR COUNCIL DECIDES NOT TO DECIDE**

The Council now understands that the proposal to sell off various local car-parks has now been shelved, at least for this year. However, councillors felt it important to remind the District Council that Axbridge was still willing to enter into discussions about its offer to purchase the space. The Mayor would attend a meeting at Bridgwater and put the town council's view in person.

## **SORT-IT PLUS TRIAL**

The Council will be pleased to receive comments from residents on the efficiency or otherwise of the new waste collection service known as Sort-it Plus. It is important to be able to provide the Somerset Waste Partnership with evidence at the end of the trial period.

Please let the Town Clerk have your views.

## **AXBRIDGE ACTION GROUP CONSULTATION**

The Axbridge Action Group has received a report from its chosen Independent Traffic Management Consultant and will be inviting comment at a public presentation to be advertised shortly.

## **TOWN ALLOTMENTS - PARKING**

An attempt to provide more parking at the Town Allotments at Hillside has come to a halt pending the erection of some form of crash-barrier on the southern edge.

## **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)