



# OYEZ!

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Town Council  
newsletter

November 2008

## **SORT IT PLUS TRIALS**

Members noted that changes are being made to the scheme this month and felt that the leaflet sent to residents did not clearly indicate that this involved changes to the recycling box dates. Somerset Waste Partnership would be asked to keep the Council fully informed and consulted on the arrangements to help advise residents of future changes, and the outcome of the trial, in due course.

## **BUDGETS 2009/10**

The draft budget for 2009/10 was approved, resulting in a precept of £56,000. Details are available from the Clerk.

Sedgemoor District Council is considering its budget for 2009/10 with difficult decisions likely to be needed before finalisation of the budget in the New Year

Somerset County Council had expressed disappointment at the allocation of low level of central government funding.

## **POLICE**

The Police reported a decrease in crime across the board, with the exception of distraction burglaries. Residents were advised to be alert to this and to check identity badges. Several campaigns were taking place and a beat surgery would be held shortly, possibly to coincide with the Farmers' Market on 6th December 2008. Police support and enforcement would continue in the absence of the Police Community Support Officer at the present time.

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

A summary of the Annual Report for 2007/08 was approved and would be circulated to all households with OYEZ.

## **PAGEANT**

The organisers of the progressive supper presented a cheque for £500 in support of the pageant, which was very welcome. Storage had been found for pageant costumes.

## **CO-OP—BUS SERVICE**

Members welcomed the provision of a bus service to Winscombe, leaving Meadow Street Car Park at 9am, 11am, 1pm and 3pm whilst the Co-op was closed for renovation works.

## **CHRISTMAS**

All residents, and visitors, are welcome to attend the Christmas Farmers' Market on the morning of Saturday 6th December 2008 and Father Christmas night from 5.30pm on Saturday 20th December 2008. Both events to be held in The Square. Come along and join the fun!



## **TOWN TWINNING**

A trip to Houlgate would be planned for Autumn 2009. Local residents had attended the funeral of *Adette DeBrugh*, a key organiser of the twinning in Houlgate, and presented a wreath on behalf of the Town.

## **ADVERTISING SIGNS AT TOWNSEND**

Members reiterated their objections to the erection of advertising signs on the Townsend junction due to road safety concerns. The Council would urge the District Council to pay attention to the Highways Safety Report and would seek support from Cheddar Parish Council and the Police.

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT—MODEL PUBLICATION SCHEME**

The Council would submit its publication scheme, based on the model, setting out the classes of information available to the public as part of its normal business activities.

## **TOWN TRUST**

The Council approved payment of the second half of the grant to the Town Trust of £1,820 towards the running of the Town Hall 2008/09 and a grant of £300 towards the town planters

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC—COME AND HAVE YOUR SAY!  
NEXT MEETING—MONDAY 19TH JANUARY 2009  
7.30PM AT THE TOWN HALL, AXBRIDGE**

### **CHANGING ROOMS**

The meeting with the users of the changing rooms had been productive, with a further meeting on the charging arrangements being held shortly.

### **BINS ON THE FURLONG**

Agreement was given to purchase a further dog bin for the furlong, and two further litter bins, which would be strategically placed—providing for a dog bin at either entrance to the furlong, by the public footpaths and litter bins in areas where litter accumulates at present. These should be in place by the New Year.

### **DOG FOULING**

Local residents, and councillors, are concerned at the level of dog fouling on our pavements. The dog warden will be visiting Axbridge on a regular basis.

#### **PLEA TO ALL DOG OWNERS**

Please help to keep our streets free from dog mess!



### **STREETS AND PARKING IMPROVEMENT PLAN—AXBRIDGE ACTION GROUP**

Members had considered the proposals in the plan and would suggest to the Action Group that the proposal to improve the footway link between Meadow Street Car Park and The Square, including the introduction of a short length of single carriageway width, be considered as a priority. Members felt that the proposal to pedestrianise the area outside of the Co-op and King John's Hunting Lodge could not be supported at the present time, due to the loss of parking spaces, but may be feasible and welcomed in the future.

### **YELLOW LINE REVIEW**

It was anticipated that any suggestions to add or remove yellow lines could be considered by the Highways Authority in the New Year. Any suggestions would be discussed by the Town Council's Highways Advisory Group and reported to Council on 19th January 2009.

### **QUALITY BUS PARTNERSHIP**

Plans to improve the route of the bus through Axbridge were being safety audited and would shortly be presented for consideration by the Town Council. The bus stop currently sited

outside of Compton House would need to continue to operate from this location, as at present, with just minor works taking place.

### **BT PHONE BOX—JUBILEE ROAD**

The Council would ask that this telephone box, which was already due for removal, be removed as soon as possible, as it was now falling into disrepair

### **JACK TODD MEMORIAL GARDEN**

Members welcomed the extension of the garden area in Houlgate Way

### **RECYCLING BANKS—MEADOW STREET CAR PARK**

The Council had been advised that this facility needed to be moved from its current position to due statutory noise complaints/concerns. Sedgemoor District Council and the Somerset Waste Partnership intended to re-site the facility to the south west corner of the car park, otherwise the facility would be lost. The Town Council reiterated its strong desire to retain the recycling facility and would establish whether this was the only legally and environmentally acceptable alternative site within the car park. Plan available from the Town Clerk.

### **PARISH CHARTER**

The Town Council will raise concerns about the level of consultation from Sedgemoor District Council when the Parish Charter is reviewed next year.

### **MEADOW STREET CAR PARK**

Work was ongoing to purchase Meadow Street Car Park and to seek grant funding.

### **EMERGENCY PLANNING MEETING**

Speakers from Somerset County Council and Gloucestershire Chamber of Commerce would make a presentation to a joint meeting of the Town Council and Axbridge Chamber of Commerce on Emergency Planning on 26th January 2009.

### **TOWN MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR**

It had been a busy month, with work including tidying up the cemetery, the Furlong and removal of litter from around the Town. Any residents who feel there may be a task for the the "lengthsman" is asked to contact either Councillor Jim Lukins or the Town Clerk.

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

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