



OYEZ!

AXBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL **NEWS FROM THE JULY** **MEETING**

YOUTH SHELTER

Councillors were told that damage to the Youth Shelter remained a problem and that there was also a concern that a great deal of litter is being left around the shelter. Parents are urged to ensure their children are not involved in this anti-social behavior. The local police will monitor the situation.

PROPOSED BUS STOP CHANGES

In the light of a decision by Somerset Highways to remove the proposed relocation of the West Street (Townsend) eastbound bus-stop to Houlgate Way from its list of proposed works, and other comments made to Council by residents, the Council felt bound to display, once again, the remaining proposed changes to the route 126 stops within the town. Copies of the plans will be on the Town Council Community Stall at the August Farmers' Market (Saturday 1st August) and again at the Town Council August meeting (17th August). Somerset Highways' revised programme permits further comment from the Council, or residents, so there will be an appropriate agenda item at the August monthly meeting. Householders affected by proposed re-siting or re-designing of stops, motorists likely to be affected by any changes, and bus-users are urged to make themselves aware of the likely changes and make their views known – to a Town Councillor, to the clerk or at the August meeting of Council during the public participation section of the agenda.

AXBRIDGE MUSEUM

The "Friends of Axbridge Museum" group has been set up to raise funds in support

of the museum in King John's Hunting Lodge, following the cut in grant from Sedgemoor District Council. Anyone wishing to join should contact Cllr. Hamblin (733939).

SCHOOL GOVERNOR'S REPORT

The First School had been complimented on its management of Health and Safety issues following a recent inspection.

SPORTS AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Cllr Ham reported that the Fun Day had been a success and thanked all involved. She anticipated that funds would be available for distribution to local groups at a later date when details on how to apply would be advertised.

NEW NOTICE BOARDS

Members agreed to apply for planning permission to erect two replacement oak framed, lockable and glazed cabinets for notices on the Town Hall in exactly the same position as the existing open boards. The Town Trust board would still be available to community groups and others, at the discretion of the Trust, to advertise events in the town. If this arrangement demonstrates the need for a further "community board" elsewhere in the Square, this will be considered by Council and the Trust at a later date.

CRICKET NETS ON THE FURLONG

Councillors were disappointed to hear that the planned installation of the practice nets on the Furlong has been delayed. It was agreed that the work must be carried out before the autumn and winter weather delays the work until Spring 2010.

ALLERTON CRICKET CLUB

The Allerton cricket club had asked the Council to support its bid to Sedgemoor District Council for a grant towards ground improvements. The members agreed to support the bid in principle, but wished to see what other projects were being put forward to SDC before committing to support a request for a specific sum.

BMX AREA ON THE FURLONG

Members agreed that the area at the bottom of the Furlong, where mounds of earth were brought in to enable youngsters to create a BMX track, should be cleared and leveled. The area has not been used; it affects the drainage of the field and the Council is paying insurance for an under-used facility. At the same time, it is planned to clear the ditch at the bottom of the Furlong, in agreement with the landowner.

SUSTAINABLE AXBRIDGE NETWORK

Sustainable Axbridge Network (SANE) reported to the Council that it has successfully linked with similar groups in nearby communities to join the Warm Streets pilot scheme for home insulation. Under this scheme everyone is eligible for substantial discounts – of at least 50%, and free in some cases – on loft and cavity wall insulation.

Through Sedgemoor District Council, SANE has two home energy meters available for loan to households in Axbridge. These give a good idea of day to day consumption, or check how much a single appliance is using. The Community Allotment is celebrating a very successful first year, including excellent crops and the first instalment of a grant towards a poly-tunnel and tool shed.

Further details of all these projects are on the SANE pages of the Axbridge Town Council website. Alternatively, for home energy information you may wish to email info@sustainableaxbridge.org.uk or phone David Parkin (733762); for the community allotment email axbridgeallotment@hotmail.co.uk or phone Mark Liebman (733440)

CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

Council accepted the recent safety inspection report on the play area and asked Cllr Ham to investigate what work needed urgent attention.

BEACH ON CHEDDAR RESERVOIR

Members were made aware of a suggestion recently made that a beach and a swimming area might be created at Cheddar Reservoir. This was being promoted with Government funds. Councillors felt this could be an asset to the area and further information would be sought.

MEADOW STREET CAR PARK

The proposed purchase of Meadow Street car-park from Sedgemoor District Council is still being negotiated and it is hoped that this will be finalised shortly.

"VOICES OF AXBRIDGE"

The Council's Modern Town Archivist, Mrs Maggie Tur, has taken on the leadership of the "Voices of Axbridge" Project as this ties in well with her general archiving work. Anyone who has memories to share or tales of old Axbridge to tell should contact her (732855) or Cllr. Paul Passey (733373). She is also keen to make digital copies of photographs and pictures that record the history of the town. Please make contact if you are willing to loan such items to be copied digitally.

MAKE DEMOCRACY WORK!

Residents are reminded that the agenda for each meeting is placed on the Council notice board at the Town Hall in advance of every meeting. There is the opportunity at every meeting to ask questions or raise issues of general concern (limit 3 minutes per person). In addition matters may be referred to the Town Clerk, Mrs. Vicky Brice 07884264033 or info@axbridge-tc.gov.uk All meetings, held in the Town Hall on the third Monday of each month from 7.30 p.m. until about 9.30 p.m.