

OYEZ!

News from the April Town Council Meeting



POLICE REPORT: The new Beat Manager PC Pete Wills gave a report to the meeting in which he explained that he planned to hold Police and Community Together (PACT) meetings in each of the individual parishes for which he is now responsible. He will be providing special Post Boxes in all the parishes for residents to make their concerns known to the police through suggestion slips.

During the last month, the police (PCSO's) have issued more than 30 parking tickets. PC Wills made it clear that ignoring the free parking limitations of one hour in the Square would no longer result in a warning letter but that all cars would be ticketed. He had been told that a system of residents warning fellow offenders of the presence of a PCSO in the Square in an attempt to flout the parking rules.

Councillors felt that such anti-social behaviour was unhelpful. (The one hour parking restriction is in force seven days a week!)

PARKING IN JUBILEE ROAD: During the meeting a resident asked if the Council could consider how best to prevent parking on the north side of Jubilee Road, opposite Jubilee Farm. The line of parked cars close to the junction with Chestnut Avenue obscured the view for drivers leaving Chestnut Avenue.

FUN DAY: This year the Axbridge Fun Day is on Saturday 17th July.

FREE PARKING for FARMERS' MARKETS: District Councillor Liz Scott told the meeting that free parking would be available in the Axbridge Town Car Park (Meadow Street) on the first Saturday of each month to support the Farmers' Market. This concession will be until 13.00hrs.

TOWN TRUST DONATION: The Trust has made a sum of £500 available for the improvement and maintenance of the garden at the War Memorial. The memorial will also be cleaned.

PYLON SCHEME CAMPAIGN: The Council agreed to write to the appropriate body to register its objections to the present proposals for large pylons across the lower Axe valley and to co-operate with any other parish groups opposed to the scheme.

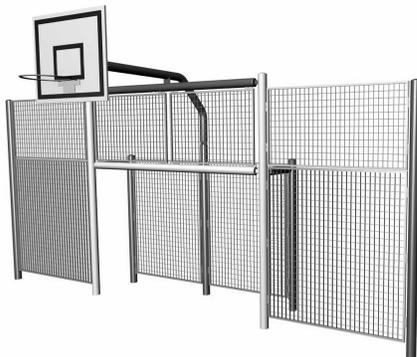
HARVEST HOME DONATION: The Harvest Home organisers have made donations of £700 to local groups and will be holding the next Harvest Home on Sunday 12th September.

CRICKET NETS: The nets are now complete and being used by both Axbridge Cricket Club and other residents and children. There are still a few teething problems that will require attention.

BMX TRACK CLEARANCE: Arrangements are being made to clear the mounds of earth on the south side of the Furlong, formerly intended as a BMX track. This will be done by a man with a digger and the help of volunteers. While on site the digger will be asked to carry out a few exploratory scoops from the ditch to see what work is required to tidy up the area and to try and improve the drainage on the Furlong.

SCHOOL NEWS: The Governing Body had not yet appointed a replacement Head-teacher and would be interviewing again in May.

SPORTS WALL: Councillors were pleased to hear that funding had now been obtained so that a sports "wall" may be erected in the Furlong at no expense to the town council.



TOWN BAILIFF: Mr. Richard Cottis was elected as Town Bailiff to succeed Mr. James MacKay.

NEW COUNCILLOR: Mr Craig Walkling was co-opted to fill a vacancy on the Town Council. He will take his seat at the May meeting of council.

WELCOME PACK: The Council approved a suggestion from its Axbridge Promotion Advisory Group that a simple "Welcome Pack" and directory be produced each year to be distributed to each household with "Oyez" once each year. Extra copies would be available for any newcomers to the town at other times.

CHANGING ROOMS REPAIRS: As a part of a programme of on-going maintenance new guttering and down pipes are to be fitted to the Jack Todd Changing Rooms in the Furlong at a cost of £500.

WEBSITE: Councillors approved the suggestion that since the present webmaster, Cllr. Jeremy Gall, would be very busy as Mayor during the next 12 months, someone else should be invited to take on the role of up-dating the town's website. This voluntary task

would be open to non-council members, but would be subject to strict guidelines. If any resident would like to know more, before volunteering please contact the Town Clerk.

OYEZ DISTRIBUTION: The present band of "Oyez" distributors have been working for 3 years in some cases and in order to give some a rest, and to reduce the numbers of copies that some others have to deliver, we are looking for more volunteers to help once a month. Please contact Cllr. Paul Passey (01934 733373) or email him at paul@westmead31me17.freeserve.co.uk if you can help.

A38 JUNCTION AT CROSS: There is to be a "Drop-in Exhibition" at Cross Memorial Hall on 17th May from 14.00hrs to 20.00hrs at which Somerset Highways will answer questions and take suggestions about its proposals to improve the safety at the junction of Cross lane and A38.

This exhibition is open to all residents of surrounding parishes as any changes are likely to affect us all. It is likely that the solution offered by SCC will not include either traffic lights or any form of roundabout.

WASTE GROUND AT STARR'S CLOSE:

An area of waste ground off Starr's Close has been cleared by the council's lengths-man at public expense, removing both rubbish and wild vegetation. Residents are asked **not** to dump more material there as there are suggestions that it might be used as a recreational area.

**RESIDENTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND MEETINGS (3RD MONDAY EACH MONTH), TO RAISE ISSUES OR JUST TO LISTEN. MATTERS MAY BE BROUGHT TO COUNCIL'S ATTENTION VIA THE TOWN CLERK MRS VICKY BRICE
07884 264033**