

OYEZ!

News from the April Town Council Meeting



COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS

County Cllr. Dawn Hill told members that the County Council had adopted a plan

for the period 2010-2013 in which a pledge had been given to improve roads in the county and to raise educational standards.

POLICE REPORT

PC Wills asked if the Council would back a move to make the town a "no cold-calling" zone in line with a number of other local communities. It was agreed that every household should receive a letter from the police with the June issue of "Oyez" asking residents' opinion before anything further is done. The police continue to monitor parking in the Square and have been undertaking speed checks on the by-pass.

AXBRIDGE FUN DAY

The Fun Day will be on 17th July this year and any group requiring a stall should contact Pauline Ham (732062)

PAGEANT

Rehearsals begin on 6th June. Fund raising continues with an "Auction of Promises" at the Oak House (5th June).

BLACKBERRY CARNIVAL

The carnival will take place this year on 25th September when the theme will be "Mardi Gras". Any group or individual wanting more information should contact Wendy Mace (734603)

DONATION

Council agreed to make a donation of £200 to Axbridge Playmates to enable this local charity to continue to offer childcare places to local mothers at reasonable rates.

Each year the council puts a small sum into its budget to meet requests from local community and charity groups. Applications should be made via the Town Clerk.

MAYOR'S ALLOWANCE

The Mayor's allowance of £1350 for the year was formally approved by council. This sum is intended to meet expenses incurred in carrying out civic duties on behalf of the town.



THE ANNUAL MAYOR-MAKING TOOK PLACE ON MAY 10TH IN THE TOWN HALL

FURLONG

The BMX area has been levelled and the soil spread. Hopefully this will eventually seed over and become part of the landscape but the condition will be monitored. The PCSO has spoken to some of the youngsters misusing the youth shelter and she will continue to monitor the area. The vandalism to the Changing Rooms has been repaired.

CAR PARK

Council agreed that the Highways Advisory Group could investigate sources of funding for a detailed report from an independent highway engineer about ways of improving the pedestrian access from Axbridge Town Car Park along Meadow Street to the Square

COUNCIL FINANCIAL AUDIT

The Council's financial documents had been checked and members approved completion of the documents for submission to the External Auditors.

COLD WEATHER ACTION PLAN

Council adopted a Cold Weather Action Plan designed to ensure that should the town suffer disruption due to snow as it did this year, there is a clear procedure for the distribution of salt and grit. The Town Council will hold a stock.

DISABLED PARKING BAYS - THE SQUARE

A request to create another disabled parking bay in the Square was considered at length, but it was felt that the present bay near the Town Hall and Post Office was sufficient, since other bays exist in Moorland Street car-park.

MAYORS AT THE PAGEANT

Discussions were still continuing with the Pageant Organising Committee about the possibility of local Mayors being invited to attend the first performance of the Pageant and to process as part of the performance.

ADVISORY GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

At the May meeting membership of all advisory groups and standing committees was agreed. Details of these may be found on the Town Council website.

MUSEUM

Sedgemoor District Council has yet to inform the Museum Trustees what level of grant they may expect for the year 2010/11. The Chamber of Commerce members are working to support the museum's funds through sponsorship of a museum promotional leaflet.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The recent Pageant fund-raiser organised by the Chamber raised over £300. The annual Chamber barbeque on 3rd July (at The Parsonage) will also raise Pageant funds. David Heathcote-Amory will attend the Chamber AGM on 18th June.

PLANTERS

The Town Trust plans to plant out the tubs in the Square in Blue, Red and Gold to recognise the Centenary of the Guide Movement.

SPORTS WALL

The order has been placed for a Sports Wall on the Furlong. The Sports and Social Club has donated £500 towards the cost.

CATERING AT THE TOWN HALL

The Council agreed that a risk assessment should be carried out in respect of any catering for Town Council events.

A38 DROP-IN EXHIBITION

It was reported that more than 120 local residents from Compton Bishop and surrounding parishes had visited the recent drop-in exhibition arranged by Somerset County Council Highways to present the various options for improving the A38 crossroads at the New Inn. SCC's preferred option is to prevent entry into Old Coach Road from A38 or from Cross Lane.

BARNABAS CLOSE BUS STOP

The completion of the route 126 bus-stop upgrading programme through town will not be completed as the delay caused by residents' protests at the east end of Cheddar Road resulted in the budget period lapsing. Any further improvements will have to be reconsidered within the 2010/11 budget priority process.

RECREATION AREA - STARR'S CLOSE

The newly-cleared area of ground at Starr's Close could have a bench erected in it, funded by the Jack Todd request. Council understands that a group of residents is keen to promote the idea of a recreational space.

**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**