

OYEZ!

SEPTEMBER Town Council NEWS



DON CADDY

The September meeting of the Town Council began with a minute's silence in memory of Don Caddy a former councillor and Mayor of the town (1988 & 1989) who had recently died. Present councillors would attend the funeral on 22nd. September.

PAGEANT THANKS

The Council recorded a vote of thanks to the artistic director, organisers, performers and back-stage workers for making Pageant 2010 such a success. The Pageant committee was likely to remain in existence and continue to raise funds in preparation for the next time!

FARMERS' MARKETS

The Somerset Farmers' Market (SFM) organisation is considering increasing the number of markets in the town each year. The first "extra" market is planned for Sunday 19th December and is likely to include stalls selling items aimed at the Christmas trade. Other "extras" are likely to be around each Quarter-Day.

It was noted that residents and others are keeping the Square clear of parked cars prior to market days for which SFM is grateful.

HARVEST HOME

The 2010 Harvest Home had been a success and funds are now available for distribution to local groups, organisations and individuals.

Contact: Cllr. Mrs. Liz Scott (733341)

OVERHANGING VEGETATION

Several instances of footways being obstructed by overhanging bushes, creepers and general vegetation have been reported to the council.

Please, if your garden is moving outwards onto the public path or highway – cut it back, curb its enthusiasm, restrict its growth!

HINKLEY POINT AND THE QUARRIES

Members were told that the current plan by EDF, builders of Hinkley Point "C", is to source 20% of aggregates and other stone material from local quarries.

This is likely to have an impact on local road traffic at the very least.

HILLSIDE PLANNING

The Council considered a planning application to erect two dwellings and demolish an existing house at Mendip House, Hillside. Plans and a model of the proposed development were made available. It was resolved to recommend to Sedgemoor District Council (SDC) that permission be granted.

FURLONG TIDYING

It was reported that rubble and excess soil had been removed from the Furlong to improve drainage and to generally tidy certain areas. The areas in question had been seeded with new grass.

BUDGET CONSULTATION

SDC was seeking the views of residents about priorities for budget expenditure and cuts. The questionnaire may be completed online at www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/budgetconsultation

Paper copies available from Paula Barber on 01278 435274 or by emailing her at the following: paula.barber@sedgemoor.gov.uk

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Somerset County Council is asking the public to complete a survey as part of its Community Safety programme. This may be completed online at www.somerset.gov.uk then select "safer communities".

NEW TOWN COUNCILLOR

The Council s resolved to co-opt Ms Janet Homewood as a town councillor. She will take up office at the October meeting.

THE MUSEUM

The AGM of the Museum Trust will take place on **Tuesday 19th October** at 19.30 in the Church Rooms. All residents are invited to attend.

AXBRIDGE ACTION GROUP

The Group intends to consider forming an "Axbridge Community Partnership" consisting of a cross-section of interested parties to progress the implementation of the Streets and Parking Plan.

FEASIBILITY STUDY

The Council approved a proposal to seek grant-funding to pay for a feasibility study of possible improvements of the footway and general entrance into the Square from the Axbridge Town car-park (Meadow Street).

BENCHES ETC. AT LAY-BY

Members agreed to obtain a licence from SCC to ensure that the town council has responsibility for the benches and other items of street furniture at the view-point lay-by on the by-pass.



MAYOR'S CHARITY

Last year we had the Cycling Mayor; this year we will have the Saddle Sore Mayor.

Our Mayor Jeremy Gall is about to do the Strawberry Jam sponsored cycle ride in aid of Weston Hospicecare in Uphill, which is the Mayor's Charity this year. To those

hardened cyclists among you this may not sound like a great feat, but for someone whose main regular exercise is walking to the car, it has its challenges. It's a 25 mile route from Yatton through Axbridge and Cheddar, then on to Wedmore, Mark, Burnham, Brean, Berrow and finally Uphill.

Jeremy reports, "My favourite tip so far is padded shorts, but any others are welcome."

Weston Hospicecare has been chosen because anyone who has had a relative or friend reach that stage where the most important thing is the daily care and love they receive will understand why it is so very important and worthwhile.

You can sponsor him by signing the form in the Axbridge Pharmacy or the Post Office, or by logging on to the following website: www.justgiving.com/SaddlesoreMayor.

Even the smallest contribution will be well-received.

NEW TOWN HALL MANAGER



From **1st October**, please contact **Sarah Emery**, the new Town Hall Manager, for any Town Hall bookings or enquiries. A variety of activities are planned for the forthcoming months, such as Tai Chi, Yoga, dance lessons, birthday parties and wedding receptions. A schedule of events is posted on the Town Hall board.

Are there any activities you would be interested in attending locally? Maybe bingo, quiz night, salsa, Pilates, art classes, children's dancercise or ballet. Sarah would like to hear from you, please telephone 732459, or email sarah@emerybs26.fsnet.co.uk.

The Town Trust would like to say a big "thank you" to Dennis and Mary Bratt for all their hard work and commitment over the years.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chamber will be holding its Autumn Dinner on Saturday 16th October at the Oak House. Somerset Showcase will be on Saturday April 30th and Sunday May 1st next year. The Chamber has also opened discussions with both county and district councils about regulations covering advertising signage.

BARNABAS CLOSE BUS STOP

The bus stop on the north side of Cheddar Road at Barnabas Close now indicates that the bus will stop in that area "in both directions" as does that in Jubilee Road. Currently SCC declares there are no funds available to set out yellow road markings as at Jubilee Road.

DOG BIN EMPTYING

The council has been surprised by estimated costs provided by SDC for the emptying of the dog-bins in town. There appears to be confusion in the analysis produced by SDC about both the number of bins in town and the cost per annum of emptying them. Council is to seek clarification.

AXBRIDGE TOWN CAR-PARK

Having previously agreed that the Axbridge Town car-park is to be "free", members agreed that a "light touch" approach to regulation would be appropriate, at least initially. This would mean that if regular abuse of the regulations were observed by council, the offending vehicle would be ticketed and/or photographed and details passed to a car park management company for processing - excess charges/fines would then be imposed - but would accrue to the management company. This being the adopted system the present ticket machines would be removed.

FLY POSTING

Council had received a reminder about the restrictions on fly-posting and other roadside advertisements. Organisations and individuals should note that no posters may be attached to road-signs/telephone poles without permission and that signs over 0.6 sq.m. also require permission. There are considerable penalties for infringement. If you are unsure check with SDC **before** putting out notices.

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