

OYEZ!
AUGUST
News from your Town
Council



Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber of Commerce will be having their annual Dinner, with guest speaker, on 28th October (not the 29th as previously advertised). The annual summer BBQ was a great success and raised almost £500 for Chamber projects.

PCSO

PCSO Susan Venn Adams has transferred to Burnham on Sea and the Council will be writing to thank her for her hard work during her time in Axbridge. PCSO Julia Penn will now be covering Axbridge. The Clerk is to contact Inspector Tolley with regards to concerns over reduced coverage of Axbridge.

King John's Hunting Lodge

It looks likely that the Museum will not reach its financial targets this year. The Museum is also looking for volunteers to help with the Friends of the Museum. Anyone interested should contact Robin Goodfellow. 01934 732874.

St John the Baptist Church

The planned re-wiring and re-lighting scheme will start at the beginning of September, and should take 10-12 weeks to complete. The Church is one of the biggest venues in town, and if anyone is interested in using it for concerts, theatre, exhibitions etc, please contact Rev. Tim Hawkings on 01934 732261.

Harvest Home

The Harvest Home is on Sunday 4th September, from 12:00noon to 3:00pm. Tickets still available from Axbridge Chemists or Moorland Farm Shop, £12.50 for adults (half price for children), which includes free cider! For details phone 01934 733341.

Cones

Only a limited amount of the No Waiting Cones that are used to cone off spaces for works to the car park and special events etc. remain. Ten triangular cones will purchased from Mole Valley Farmers.

Axbridge Town Car Park

Residents are reminded that no vehicle may remain in the Car Park for more than 48 hours, and caravans and commercial vehicles are not permitted. The Town Council will take action to enforce the Car Park regulations as necessary. A dated enforcement notice will be placed on vehicles breaking the regulations, asking that the vehicle be removed. If it is not, the £60 penalty charge will be enforced.

Blackberry Carnival

The Axbridge Blackberry Carnival takes place on Saturday 24th September. No objections were raised to its road closure application, for the usual roads, from 1:00pm to 6:00pm. This year's theme is TV Past & Present. Entry forms are available from Axbridge Post Office, Axbridge Chemists and the Butchers, and should be returned by 10th September.

Salt Bins

Possible locations for the salt bins that are to be purchased were discussed, following a site meeting with Somerset Highways, and referred back to the Highways Advisory Group. Sites under discussion included Cheddar Road, Houlgate Way and Chestnut Avenue. The final decision on number and location of bins is awaiting a decision by Somerset County Council as to whether or not Axbridge is on the Primary Gritting Route.

Somerset Waste Partnership

Following the changes to operation of the local recycling facilities, SWP are consulting the public about the future of sites in Somerset. The survey link can be found on their homepage at <http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk>.

Planning

Details of the Planning Committee Training run by Sedgemoor District Council were made available. All members of the Committee will be given the opportunity to attend.

Allotments

Criteria for structures on the allotments, i.e. sheds and greenhouses, were considered. The following criteria will be applied to all requests for such structures:

1. Tenants can have one shed and/or greenhouse; maximum size of either to be 10ft x 8ft.
2. Greenhouses are to be glazed with glass or clear rigid plastic.
3. Both sheds and greenhouses to be removable - no hard bases such as concrete.
4. Lean to greenhouses should be no more than half the width for the length of the shed.
5. Lean to greenhouses to be made predominately of glass or clear material.
6. Tenants are restricted to either a lean to greenhouse or a full size one - not both.
7. No shed, greenhouse or lean to is to be over 9ft high.
8. Constructions should be sympathetically placed and of a colour that fits in with the rural setting.
9. Constructions should be reasonable in their construction both in relation to material used and appearance bearing in mind that the land is on an ANOB.
10. Constructions should be kept in good order and maintained when necessary.

Diary Dates

The Calendar of Meetings and events for 2011/12 was approved. Councillors have been invited to attend the Harvest Service at the Methodist Church on Sunday 18th September, and the Remembrance Day Service on Sunday 13th November. Next year's Civic Service will be on Sunday 26th February 2012.

Footpaths

Somerset County Council Rights of Way Officer would follow up the clearance and reinstatement of footpath AX1/1 which runs from Wall Green to the River Yeo along Bailiffs Wall Rhyne. The Town Council did not support a proposal to upgrade footpath AX29/37 to a bridleway.

Town Maintenance Contractor

The Town Maintenance Contractor had worked 15.5 hours in various parts of the Town. He has also weeded the gravelled area by the Church Steps. The Church expressed thanks for this. Work will be carried out this month to re-point the Church Steps and also to reset a paving slab on the highway by the Bank House.

MP news

Ms Munt MP attended the meeting, and has written to Bristol Water regarding their plans for a reservoir. A number of sites were being considered and she is to keep the Council informed.

Awards

It was noted that the Council has the power to bestow the honour of the "Freedom" of the Town. This might be appropriate to reward Councillors or Council employees who cannot be rewarded for their work under the terms of the current Civic awards.

Cemeteries

An increase of approximately 10% to the Cemetery charges was agreed. This is the first increase in three years, and the rates remain low compared with others in the 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 vbrice@axbridge-tc.gov.uk

www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk