



## OYEZ! NOVEMBER News from your Town Council

### **Axbridge ruled out as site for new reservoir**

Following extensive geological investigations at five potential sites for a new reservoir in Somerset, sites near Banwell, Axbridge and Clewer will no longer be considered. There are two remaining sites, near Cheddar and Wookey, where further investigations and consultation will be carried out. Further details can be found at the Bristol Water website [www.bristol-water.co.uk/news/mainNews.asp?newsID=936](http://www.bristol-water.co.uk/news/mainNews.asp?newsID=936) including artist's impressions of both sites.

### **Winter waste collection**

Following the problems with waste collection during the severe weather last year, the Somerset Waste Partnership are having a meeting with Somerset County Council to decide how best to plan for this year. In the event of a recurrence of such severe weather, up to date details as to when refuse/recycling will be collected will be posted on the website at [www.somersetwaste.gov.uk](http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk) as soon as possible.

### **Christmas Farmers' Market**

Make a date in your diary for an additional Christmas Farmers' Market on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December, between 10:00am – 2:00pm. Pick up the fresh produce you need for Christmas. Pre-ordering of Christmas poultry, hams and joints would be recommended – details of all producers can be found on the website at [www.somersetfarmersmarkets.co.uk](http://www.somersetfarmersmarkets.co.uk).

### **Leisure and Recreation**

As publicised, due to the recent issues with anti-social behavior on the Furlong, the Penn Way gate to the Furlong will be locked from dusk till dawn from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November.

The grant application for the outdoor gym equipment is being submitted to the Cheddar Valley Cluster Group of Parish Councils for consideration – with a recommendation to approve. If successful, it is hoped that the equipment could be installed in time for Easter. The roundabout needs to be replaced. A similar

roundabout to replace the very popular existing one would cost approximately £5,000. A quote will be obtained and enquiries made regarding the possibility of obtaining grant funding.

### **Christmas in the Square**

Father Christmas arrives in the Square on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December, bearing gifts. If your child is under the age of 9 but not at the First School/Busy Bees and you haven't added their name to the gift list, please contact Pauline Ham on 01934 732062.

However the festivities aren't just for children – it is a very sociable and enjoyable evening for all. There will be mulled wine, a BBQ and a pig roast. The Axbridge Singers will be singing, and leading carols for all (song sheets will be available), there will be a children's entertainer, and the Red Barrows. Come along and celebrate Christmas with the rest of Axbridge.

### **Bristol Water**

Bristol Water met with Town Councillors and answered questions from the Town Council as well as the public about the current pipeline works and the reservoir investigations. Members felt that Bristol Water had been open and informative and appreciated that the tight timeframe to carry out urgent works had hindered communication.

### **Hinkley Point**

Several permit applications have been received in relation to the operations at Hinkley Point, to which members of the public can respond. Current applications relate to disposals and discharges of radioactive wastes, operation of combustion processes (standby generators) and discharge of cooling water and liquid effluent into the Severn estuary. Any comments must be made by 15<sup>th</sup> December – [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/hinkleypoint](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/hinkleypoint)

Individuals and organisations can register their interest with the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) to be kept informed about the EDF Hinkley Point project. The IPC are considering whether to validate the application by 29<sup>th</sup> November and, if validated, the public will need to register their interest within 28 days. The details are available at: <http://infrastructure.independent.gov.uk/projects/south-west/hinkley-point-c-new-nuclear-power-station>.



### **Town Clerk**

The Clerk has received an award following the completion of the Higher National Certificate level of her Community Engagement and Governance Course, having obtained the highest grades on her level. Councillor Taylor had accompanied the Clerk to collect her award. The Council congratulated the

Clerk on her award - which was an honour for her personally and for the Town.

### **Church Report**

Cheddar Valley Churches Together – Ministers meet once a month to plan activities etc. They will be taking part in Cheddar Festive Night on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

The Bishop will be visiting St John the Baptist Church, Axbridge, on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December to dedicate the new lights.

### **Prayers at Council meetings**

There had been no formal precedence of prayers at council meetings. It was resolved that the holding of a prayer be at the discretion of the incumbent Mayor and, if held, that it be done so prior to the official start of the Council meeting. This policy will be included within Standing Orders.

### **Walking Bus Shelter**

It was agreed that the proposed walking bus shelter be installed in the first disabled parking space near to the entrance to Axbridge Town Car Park and that this area, in the future, include the town information board, with the intention that the curbed area, by the entrance to Read's Garden, be converted into three additional parking spaces when finances allow. Members supported a see-through shelter with no seating and the school will be advised of the council's views on the design of the shelter.

### **Town Maintenance Contractor**

The Town Maintenance Contractor had worked 12.5 hours in total - 4.5 hours in the Furlong, 2.5 hours in the Car Park and Square (litter picking and mowing), 1 hour in Starrs Close (grass

cutting), 3 hours tidying Back Lane, and 1.5 hours at the Cemetery (blowing leaves and clearing moss from tarmac).

### **Power of Well Being**

The Council continues with the intention to acquire the Power of Well Being which will necessitate a further 7 members being trained. This Power would give the Town Council the legal ability to promote or improve the economic, social or environmental well being of its area.

### **Chamber of Commerce**

The next Chamber event is the Race Night on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February to raise funds for the Somerset Showcase, which will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2012.

### **Finances**

The draft budget for 2012/13 was approved; and the precept of £70,000 for 2012/13 was approved accordingly.

### **Senior Citizens' Christmas Party**

The Senior Citizen's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December, at 12.00noon for 12.30pm. It has been decided to hold the Party as a lunch this year to try and attract more citizens. It is free and if you wish to attend please book in at the Post Office by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Civic Service and Community Awards**

There is still time to make nominations for the Axbridge Civic Awards. The awards will be presented at the Celebration of Axbridge Community Service on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2012, and you will need to get your nominations in by the end of the year.

If you have any questions or need any help getting or filling in the form, just call Vicky Brice, the Town Clerk, on 07884 264033 or get in touch with a Town Councillor.

**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](mailto:vbrice@axbridge-tc.gov.uk)

[www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk](http://www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk)