



OYEZ!
MARCH 2012
News from your Town
Council

Open Gardens

The Friends of Axbridge Church are again holding a weekend of Open Gardens in Axbridge on Saturday 9^h and Sunday 10th June. If you would like to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and open your garden please let them know, all gardens great or small are most welcome. Contact Penny Cooke 01934 733304 or Priscilla Chard on 01934 732834.

Axbridge & District Museum Trust

The Museum's Opening Ceremony will take place on Saturday 31st March at 10:00am. The museum desperately needs more custodians. Volunteers are required from 1st April – 20th September, from 1:00pm – 4:00pm. Anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer custodian, a Friend of the Museum, or a trustee, should contact Mrs Kate Browne on 01934 733208.

Somerset Showcase

The Somerset Showcase takes place on Saturday 5th May. Anyone wishing to have a stall should contact Mrs Laken on 01934 732329.

St John the Baptist Church

The Church now has a new website at www.stjohnthebaptistaxbridge.org.uk. The website covers the history of the church, details of services and worship, and the Friends of Axbridge Church, as well as details of forthcoming events and a gallery of pictures.

Cemetery

Maintenance work is progressing well and further work will be carried out to remove unnecessary conifers, cut back hawthorns and blackthorns to enable hedge laying, and to coppice deciduous varieties until the spring.

Voices of Axbridge

The Voices of Axbridge project, of which the Mayor is Patron, is now beginning to interview people associated with groups and organisations that exist in the town now, with the focus of the project moving from recording the past to recording the present.

Allotments

A new "plain English" tenancy agreement was approved. The new agreement simplifies the language used whilst maintaining the original conditions and making it clear that tenants must not obstruct paths of rights of way. It incorporates recent Council decisions on sheds, greenhouses and livestock.

Dog fouling

Dog fouling remains a serious issue throughout the Town, exacerbated by the recent lack of rain. The Police will be meeting with the Dog Warden on Friday 23rd March and have organised a press photo to highlight and address issues of dog fouling. There will be zero tolerance for owners caught allowing their dogs to foul, they will be prosecuted, and the penalty for this can be up to £1000. Dog owners are asked to take responsibility for their animals and to clear up after them.



Parking

Parking in Penn Way, Knightstone and Orchard Road is becoming a major issue at weekends with cars parking on both sides of the roads and on the pavements. In the event of an emergency vehicle needing to get through this could be very serious. It is also forcing pedestrians to walk in the road. There have also been occasions when residents have been unable to exit from Furlong place due to parking. Residents and visitors using the Furlong are asked to please consider residents and other users when parking in the area.

Diary Dates

The Mayor's Banquet will be held on Saturday 14th April (tickets £21 to include a three course meal) and it is expected to be well attended, as well as highly enjoyable. This year's Axbridge Furlong Fun Day is on Saturday 7th July.

Litter Bin

In the Furlong the litterbin on the school area fencing by the containers has been taken and needs to be replaced. Providing a further check around the vicinity does not locate the missing bin, a new bin will have to be purchased. This will cost no more than £150 and come out of the general Furlong maintenance fund.

Town Maintenance Contractor

The Town Maintenance Contractor has worked 29 hours this month – the majority of which has been work to improve the area around the Garden of Remembrance. He also spent 3 hours litter picking, 3.5 hours on the car park, and 1.5 hours on the Furlong.

Public transport cuts

It has been reported that the 490 Axe Vale service from Cheddar to Bristol on Tuesday mornings, which makes stops at Axbridge and Shipham, may be withdrawn. Members expressed their concerns regarding this and it was agreed to write to Somerset County Council stating the view of the Council that it wishes for the service to continue to be available to residents.

Annual Assembly

It was proposed that the Annual Assembly be held on 30th April 2012 (as previously agreed) and that the agenda include the possibility of the Town Council purchasing the piece of land on Moorland Street which includes not only Moorland Street Car Park but also the substation, and the land on which both the Children's Centre and Busy Bees nursery are located.

Revised waste collections

The Somerset Waste Partnership have issued a new Bank Holiday poster detailing revised collections during 2012, to cover Easter, May Day, the Diamond Jubilee, August Bank Holiday and the Christmas fortnight. The revised timetable can be downloaded from the website at <http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/collections/days/> and is also on the Town Hall noticeboard .

There are special arrangements for the Diamond Jubilee. Unusually, collections will continue to be undertaken on Monday 4th June, but for the rest of the week will be one day later, to account for the additional Bank Holiday on Tuesday 5th June. The website www.somersetwaste.gov.uk will be kept up to date with collection details.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Sports and Social Club is working with Axbridge First School PTA and other organisations within the town to arrange the Axbridge Jubilee Street party in The Square on Tuesday 5th June. Details for the day will follow soon via fliers and posters.

If you would like to get involved with the organisation they would love to hear from you. Please contact Pauline Ham 732062.

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