



### **Axbridge Town Car Park**

Following a recent survey of parking at Axbridge Town Car Park, it is apparent that some residents are over-staying their welcome. The main problem is parking at weekends or when events are on, when residents take up available space and make parking for visitors difficult. This is affecting the businesses in the Town and also the Farmers' Market, where complaints have been received from people unable to park to use the market. The Highways Group is investigating methods of enforcement, including fines, clamping, and the use of an outside company to enforce the regulations.

The Town Council will be reviewing the free status of the car park in October and welcomes the views of residents. Talk to your council at future council meetings in public participation or at the Farmers Markets.

### **Civil Parking Enforcement**

Civil Parking Enforcement came into effect on 11th June and means the transference of the responsibility for the enforcement of most on-street parking regulations from the Police to the Local Authority (Somerset County Council in our case). The County Council and its enforcement service provider NSL will issue penalty charge notices for motorists who break the parking rules. The new service will apply to parking contraventions on-street throughout the County and in car parks belonging to Taunton Dean, Sedgemoor and Mendip District Councils.

### **Church report**

Reverend Hawkings thanked those involved in the Jubilee Celebrations on behalf of the community. The Church Fete on 16<sup>th</sup> June and Fathers Day event on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2012 had made for a great weekend. The Town would be hosting the Civic Service for Sedgemoor District Council on 23rd September, which would include a lunchtime church service.

### **Allotments**

New tenancy agreements have been sent to allotment holders. The allotments will be inspected on a two weekly basis. The review will form the basis of any subsequent letters to allotment holders highlighting any lack of activity or general maintenance required. All allotments must be properly and substantially cultivated. Where appropriate photographs will be taken as evidence to clearly identify a time line of inactivity.

### **Dog Mess**

Dog mess continues to be an on-going issue, but Sedgemoor are continuing with their programme of prosecution of irresponsible dog owners with a further two more dog walkers being issued with fixed penalty notices after allowing their dogs to foul. Fixed penalty notices are £50 if paid within seven days of issue, which goes up to £70 for the subsequent seven days. If not paid within that fourteen day period, the matter is referred to court. Please clear up after your dogs. If you don't – yours could be the next prosecution.

### **New Police Community Support Officer**

Axbridge has a new PCSO – Gill Bawler – who will be working in the town to address anti-social behaviour and parking issues. She will be on regular patrol throughout the town. Anyone wishing to report non-urgent issues to the police should call the police non-emergency number 101.

### **E-mail**

All email correspondence intended for the Town Council should be sent directly to the Town Clerk. Emails to the council will be acknowledged automatically, and a reply will be made in seven to ten working days.

### **Farmers' Market**

The Farmers' Market is going from strength to strength and has added a new canopy. The Market has benefitted from the other events going on in the Square at weekends, bringing more people into the market. There will be an extra Christmas market again this year, on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December, and also possibly a small one on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2013. There is a new Farmers' Market in Cheddar on the third Friday of the month, on the forecourt of the Bath Arms Hotel, from 9:00am – 1:00pm.

### **Furlong Field**

The climbing frame will be repaired shortly, and the outdoor gym equipment will be re-sited. The signs for the gym equipment may have been vandalized. The perspex to repair the Youth Shelter has been acquired and will be fitted as soon as possible. The Clerk would advise Sedgemoor District Council that the hedge along the footpath by the play area and up to St Mary's Street needs cutting back. The annual Play Area inspection has taken place.

Parents are asked to take responsibility for their children playing on the Furlong. The Furlong field is only for use between the hours from dawn until dusk. Use outside of these hours can be very intrusive for neighbouring residents. Please be considerate.

### **Harvest Home**

This year's Harvest Home Lunch will be on Sunday 2nd September, in the Town Hall, and the cost remains at £12.50 per ticket. Tickets are limited to 100 and will be available shortly from the Chemists, or please contact Liz Scott at Moorland Street Farm or Cathy Parsons at the Party Shop.

The dog show raised £380 profit and the Harvest Home is making a £150 donation to the church for their boiler repair fund, £100 to Katrina Pinnington's family effort in running the Edinburgh marathon for Cancer charities and £50 to the RSPCA for their 'Hope' appeal. The committee thanked all those who attended and contributed to such an enjoyable event.

### **Community First Responders**

Could you be a Community First Responder? Community First Responders are volunteers working for the ambulance service. At the moment there are only two of them and at least one more member is needed, primarily to cover Mondays and Tuesdays on a regular basis. They are trained by the Ambulance service to respond quickly to 999 calls in the Axbridge area, as it can take up to half an hour for an ambulance to get here. If you think this might be for you, then please call Michael Dearden, the CFR coordinator on 733876 to find out more about it.

### **Bus Timetables**

The new Somerset County Council bus timetables are now available online at [www.somerset.gov.uk/timetables](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/timetables). Following feedback from customers and partners the new booklets are town based and include all the services which operate in that area.

### **Town Maintenance Contractor**

The Town Maintenance Contractor worked 18 hours this month – 10 in the cemetery, 5.5 hours litter picking throughout the town, and 2.5 hours on Starrs Close.



### **Jubilee Celebrations**

The Jubilee celebrations went off exceptionally well and were enjoyed by all. Thanks go to the Sports and Social for organising it, to the Lamb and Butcombe Brewery for the firework display and for the use of the Butcombe lorry as the stage for the bands. Following the successful sales of food on the day, donations of £100 will be made to both the Town Hall and to the First School.

All Axbridge children up to school Year 8 received a Jubilee medal from Axbridge Town Council. Jubilee medals are now being give out to children from year 9 and 10 who attend Kings of Wessex. If your year 9/10 child does not attend KOW, or if your have a younger child/children who has not received their medal, please contact Pauline Ham on 01934 732062.

### **Mayor wins Cricket Trophy**

The Mayor's Ten won the annual Church vs Council cricket match and retained the trophy.

### **Diary Dates:**

- Axbridge Furlong Fun Day is on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July.
- The Chamber of Commerce AGM is on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June at Compton House.

**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)