



OYEZ!
AUGUST 2012
News from your Town
Council

Councillor Resignation

There is a vacancy for a new Town Councillor, following the resignation of Councillor Hamblin. A notice had been displayed on 17th August 2012 giving the electorate 14 days during which to request an election to fill the said vacancy. If no such election is sought within this period, the Town Council will proceed to fill this vacancy by co-option. Watch this space in the next OYEZ for information on how to apply. The Mayor, on behalf of the Town Council, thanked Mr Hamblin for all his hard work, as Councillor and Mayor, on behalf of the Town.

Town Maintenance Report

The Town Maintenance Contractor had worked 20 hours in the Town, litter picking, strimming and generally tidying up on the Furlong, Millstream Close, Starrs Close, Back Lane and on several footpaths in the town and at the allotments. 6 of these hours had been spent removing trees and tidying up the cemetery.

Chamber of Commerce

This year the annual Chamber of Commerce fund raising BBQ will be held on Saturday 22nd September after the Blackberry Carnival. Tickets will be available soon.

Overgrown foliage

It was noted that at several places in the Town overgrown vegetation is encroaching on the footpaths. Residents are reminded to cut back their overgrown brambles, roses, and so forth, to keep the pavements and footpaths clear for other residents.

Car Parking Enforcement

As a result of the continuing problems with parking regulations not being obeyed – both in the Square and in the Axbridge Town Car Park, the Highways Group has been investigating methods of enforcement. Residents over-staying their

welcome in the Axbridge Town Car Park are preventing visitors to the Town from parking which is affecting both businesses in the Town and the Farmers Market. Following the decriminalisation of parking regulations earlier this year, Somerset County Council has been successful in employing an outside company to enforce parking regulations in Axbridge, and it was agreed to enter into negotiations with that company to carry out enforcement in the car park(s) owned by the Town Council.

Street Lighting

Part-night lighting is being phased in in Somerset and Axbridge is in the first phase – with works to be completed by the end of this financial year. Consultation on the specifics of the scheme will follow in due course, and the Council will also be consulted so could make suggestions, such as alternate lights being part night, or certain lights being excluded from the scheme. As part of this scheme most of the lamps on Cheddar Road which are fitted to electricity poles will be replaced with new ones, which will greatly improve the lighting in this area. However it was felt that three new lamps would still be required which would cost no more than £4000. Quotes will be obtained.

Blackberry Carnival

This year's Blackberry Carnival will take place on Saturday 22nd September, and the theme is Myths, Legends and Fairy tales. Entry forms can be found in the Chemists and the Post Office. The usual road closures will be in place on the day. For more information please contact Robin Mace on 01934 734603.

Outdoor Gym Equipment

There are on-going issues with the quality of the new outdoor gym equipment, which has been not only unacceptable but also very disappointing. The Town Council are working with the company involved to rectify matters and the invoice will not be paid until the equipment meets with the Town Council's satisfaction. The explanations on how to use the equipment have also been stolen from the site, and will not be being replaced. Various repair work is required - to the baby swing (which has been padlocked out of use while this is being arranged), to the fence panels at the Children's Play Area, and also the downpipe on the Changing Room has had to be replaced again following further vandalism.

Calendar of Meetings and Events 2012/2013

Sunday 16 th Sept	Harvest Service	6.30pm	Methodist Church
Monday 17 th Sept	Council Meeting	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Monday 15 th October	Council Meeting	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Sunday 11 th Nov	Remembrance Day	11.00am	St John Baptist Church
Monday 19 th Nov	Council Meeting	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Monday 10 th Dec (TBC)	Council Meeting	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Saturday 22 nd Dec (TBC)	Santa in the Square	5.00pm	The Square
Monday 21 st January 2013	Council Meeting	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Monday 18 th February	Council Meeting	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
TBC	Civic Service		St John Baptist Church
Monday 4 th March	Annual Assembly	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Monday 18 th March	Council Meeting		Axbridge Town Hall
TBC	Mayor's Banquet	8.00pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Monday 15 th April	Council Meeting	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Monday 13 th May	Annual Council Meeting & Mayor Making	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Monday 20 th May	Council Meeting	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Monday 17 th June	Council Meeting	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Monday 15 th July	Council Meeting	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall
Monday 19 th August	Council Meeting	7.30pm	Axbridge Town Hall

Church Report

Reverend Hawkings updated members on the project to replace the Church Boiler, which will be done shortly. The Church is waiting to hear the result of their applications for funding. A number of complaints had been received about the state of the churchyard, which has become very overgrown. The issue has been raised with Sedgemoor District Council who are responsible for the maintenance of the churchyard. It is hoped that this will be addressed as soon as possible. The Church may need the support of the Town Council in addressing this. Sedgemoor District Council's Civic Service will be held in St John's Church on 23rd September and all are welcome to attend. The Harvest Festival, Harvest Home and Parish Church services would be taking place during September and October 2012.

Laptop and Software

A new laptop has been purchased for the Clerk following the previous laptop being accidentally damaged. The majority of the cost of replacement is to be met by a successful claim on the Town Council's insurance. No additional software was required.

Axbridge Museum Trust

Visitor attendance is well down, but this appears to be the case with all attractions in the local area.

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 are available from the Chemists, or please contact Liz Scott at Moorland Farm or Cathy Parsons at the Party Shop.

Youth Centre

The Sea Cadets are waiting for Somerset County Council to transfer the Old Station premises to them, which appears to have been delayed. County Councillor Mrs Hill advised, via District Councillor Mrs Scott, that this was being pursued. It looks likely that the planned September start for the unit will be delayed as a health and safety survey is required before it can start up officially.

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