



OYEZ!

March 2013

News from your Town Council

A message from the Mayor

We are all very lucky to live in a beautiful area of the country, in such an attractive and historic Town. It is therefore a mystery to me why so many dog owners allow their dogs to foul our streets and public areas. As a dog owner you take responsibility for its well being, exercise and feeding. Why then do some of you find it acceptable to not pick up and bin mess left by your dog?

If you own a dog and do not scoop and bin the poop then:

- *You are an irresponsible owner and shouldn't be allowed to keep a dog.*
- *You are increasing the risk of spreading serious diseases to people within our community especially children.*
- *You run the risk of prosecution, a large fine and public humiliation.*

The Town Council has highlighted this problem constantly over the past year with little success. I have therefore purchased at my own expense 1000 disposable envirobags as used by responsible owners to scoop the poop. These bags will be divided into bundles of 10 and will be available **FREE** from the Town Council stall at the farmer's market on Saturday 6th April 2013. It is of course necessary, once you have scooped, to then dispose of the bag and contents in the bins provided or indeed in your own wastebins.

The Town Council is also placing a box in the Post Office marked "Clean up campaign." We are requesting information as to regularly misused sites and if possible descriptions of offenders. This information is completely confidential and the names of people supplying it are not requested. You can also email me at cleanupthepoo@hotmail.com The contents of the email will be noted and the message destroyed immediately, you will not be contacted. After collation the information will be used to target, identify and prosecute anyone who offends. It should also be noted that if the situation doesn't improve the Town Council will consider spending *your* money on employing a dedicated Axbridge Dog Warden to alleviate the situation. The Town Council will call for maximum press coverage of any prosecution.

Let's work to keep our Town free from dog's mess.

**You have been warned - everyone is watching!
Be a responsible owner**

"SCOOP THE POOP"

Axbridge Museum

The museum in King John's Hunting Lodge will open for the summer season on Friday 29th March, though there will be an official opening ceremony on Saturday 6th April during the Farmers' Market.

The Museum has a new section on *Welfare Through the Ages*, and is planning a number of temporary displays, beginning with one on *Mining in the Mendips*. In connection with this they are running a *Quarry Faces talking teashop event* in the Roxy from 2-4pm on Wednesday 17th April.

The museum is looking for new custodians. If you feel you could give some time to staffing the museum contact Kate Browne on 733208.

Sea Cadets

The Sea Cadets have now taken possession of the old station building and are preparing it for use. They plan to open in May, initially with a senior group (13-18 years), with a junior (10-12) group starting later. They are holding an Open Evening from 7.30 to 9.00pm on Tuesday 16th April in the old station, and everyone interested is encouraged to come along.

Air disaster

Wednesday 10th April will be the 40th anniversary of the Basle air disaster. There will be a memorial service in the parish church at 7.30pm that evening.

Youth club

Following closure of the permanent Youth Club the Cheddar Valley Youth Club Group has obtained grant funding to enable some activities to take place over the summer. This will be based in the old station building when it is re-opened, but may begin earlier in the Church Rooms.

The Somerset Rural Youth Bus will be based in the Square for ten Wednesdays beginning on the 27th March.

Watch out for further information on this

Flyers with Oyez

Flyers for local community groups can be circulated with Oyez, but we limit this to 2 flyers per issue, and because of high demand for this service it is advisable to book well in advance. We suggest a donation of £10 towards costs for this service. For further information, or to reserve a slot for a flyer contact John Kendall (john.kendall@axbridge-tc.gov.uk or telephone 732103)

Residents are invited to attend Town Council meetings to raise issues or just to listen. Matters may be brought to the Council's attention via the Town Clerk.

Meetings are held in the Town Hall on the 3rd Monday each month at 7.30 pm.

**The Town Clerk, Mrs Vicky Brice can be contacted by phone or e-mail:
Phone: 07884 264033
e-mail: vicky.brice@axbridge-tc.gov.uk**

Axbridge Neighbourhood Plan

Consultation Exhibition

Axbridge Town Hall
Friday 26th April, 5pm to 9pm
Saturday 27th April, 10am to 4pm

Find out more about neighbourhood planning - have your say

Neighbourhood Planning is a new way for communities to decide their own future. Sedgemoor has already adopted a Core Strategy to guide planning, but it has little detailed provision for communities like Axbridge. An Axbridge Neighbourhood Plan would make locally determined policies part of the statutory planning process.

What will the plan enable us to do?

Plan the future land use of Axbridge (including the location of new homes, shops and business developments)

Have a say on what these developments should look like
Simplify the planning process for some types of development

Why does it matter?

Without a neighbourhood plan we are dependent on decisions taken by people who do not live here. The Government wants to put the power back in the hands of local residents, businesses and councils. The Neighbourhood Plan will give us the opportunity to influence the future of Axbridge.

Key areas where we need your feedback.....

Parking, transport, highways
Business and tourism
Conservation and architecture
Green issues
Public services
Health and education
Leisure and sport

Drop in to look at the displays, leave your comments and talk to members of the steering group.

We look forward to welcoming you for a free cup of tea or coffee