



OYEZ!

August 2013

News from your Town Council

Allotment available

There is an available plot in the Town Council's allotments. Anyone interested in having an allotment should contact the Town Clerk (*contact details overleaf*)

Town Trust launches 100 Club

Axbridge Town Trust is starting a 100 Club. All proceeds go towards Axbridge Town Hall and the preservation of Axbridge's antiquities and its archive of historical documents.

£25.00 for 6 draws over 12 months
£100.00 top prize
plus prizes of £50.00 and £25.00

Contact Mike Anderson on **07968 028062** to book your ticket.

Library e-AudioBooks

LibrariesWest now has a collection of over 1000 e-AudioBooks available to download free to local library members for loans of up to 21 days. For further details go to :

www.librarieswest.org.uk/audio

High speed broadband

Connecting Devon and Somerset, the project for rolling out high speed broadband across the two counties, is reported to be on schedule despite press reports that this is not the case in some parts of the country. There is no date yet for connection to Axbridge, but progress across the two counties can be monitored on an interactive map at:

www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/where-and-when

YMCA NightStop

YMCA Somerset Coast Group has a scheme called Nightstop which supports and helps young people aged between 16 and 25 years old who are in housing crisis. In 2012-13 the District Council took 33 homeless applications from people under the age of 25 years. When a young person is in housing crisis they are offered a safe place to stay for a few nights in the home of a Nightstop Host Family. Nightstop Hosts are volunteers who can offer a spare room for a few nights, maybe one or two nights at a time,

an evening meal, breakfast, friendly conversation and a warm welcome.

NightStop is in need of Host Families across Sedgemoor and Somerset. If you would like to see further information on this scheme go to:

<http://www.bridgwaterymca.org/housing-homeprojectsnightstop.asp>
or phone **01278 726040**

Somerset Fuel Scheme

Anyone living in Somerset with a household income up to £35,000 pa can obtain an interest free loan of up to £500 to help them spread the cost of oil, wood, Calor Gas or coal for domestic heating. It can also be used to help with the cost of fitting thermostats. If you would like further details of the scheme please telephone: **01823 461099**

Axbridge Active Living

The meeting planned for the 4th September has had to be cancelled, so the first session after the summer break will be on September 18th, when Carole Hamblin will give a talk on lavender. Later events include:

- October 2nd: Casualty make-up
- October 16th: Flexercise and bingo

Axbridge Neighbourhood Plan

Visitors to the Neighbourhood Plan consultation exhibition in April were asked to complete a questionnaire to gauge opinion about aspects of planning in Axbridge. Questionnaires were also made available in the Post Office and at the Fun Day. The response was quite good, with over 90 questionnaires returned, but this represents only about 6% of the electorate and the steering group would like to gain a wider range of opinion.

Not all groups in the population are equally represented in the responses received. This table below shows some of the imbalances. The steering group would especially like to have the views of teenagers and those in their 20s, 30s and 40s to give a more balanced picture.

People who are . . .	% of survey respondents	% of the population
Below age 44	19%	42%
Over age of 74	16%	8%
Female	57%	52%

Overleaf are some results from the survey so far - do you agree with them? It is still possible to make your voice heard by completing the survey online at the web address overleaf, or on the Town Council website.

The Neighbourhood Plan matters - without it decisions about the future of Axbridge will be made by people who live elsewhere.

Some opinions from the Neighbourhood Plan survey so far . . .

- There should be no increase in new dwellings beyond the 4% level set in the local plan - **83% agreed**
- New dwellings must provide sufficient off-street parking for all occupants - **97% agreed**
- Wide grass verges should be converted to parking where needed - **54% agreed**
- More off-street parking is needed - **90% agreed**
- We need to protect the conservation area and leave it as it is - **90% agreed**
- Less parking and more open space should be provided in The Square - **65% agreed**
- The proposed second Cheddar Reservoir would be good for the community - **56% agreed**
- The proposed Cheddar Gorge cable car should be supported - **56% agreed**
- Further supermarket development should be allowed in neighbouring parishes - **75% disagree**

Do you agree?

Have your say on these and other questions using the online survey at:

www.surveymonkey.com/s/Axbridge-Neighbourhood-Plan



COUNCILLOR VACANCY - NOTICE OF CO-OPTION

AXBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
has a
VACANCY
for a
TOWN COUNCILLOR
TO BE FILLED BY CO-OPTION

Subject to an election not being called Axbridge Town Council will consider filling by co-option a casual vacancy for a councillor at its meeting to be held on:

Monday 16th September, 7.30pm at Axbridge Town Hall

If you are interested in serving the community in this way and want to become a candidate for co-option, please contact the Clerk for an application form and further details (also available on the website www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk and in the Post Office)

Completed application forms must be submitted to the Clerk by
Monday 8th September 2013

Information on eligibility, the role of the Town Council and its schedule of meetings may be obtained from the Clerk.

Clerk: Mrs V Brice,
2 Woodview Road, Chrddar, Somerset, BS27 3NF

E-mail: Vicky.Brice@axbridge-tc.gov.uk
Website: www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk
Tel: 07884 264033

21st August 2013



AXBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL **VACANCY** **DEPUTY TOWN CRIER**

Axbridge Town Council is looking for a deputy Town Crier.

Vonnie Chamberlain will have been the Axbridge Town Crier for 40 years in 2015 and has decided that this will be the time to hang up her bell! We are looking for a deputy Town Crier to train with her until her retirement and to take on the role of Town Crier from May 2015 following the annual Mayor Making Ceremony.

This is a ceremonial role, held in high esteem, which offers opportunities to represent Axbridge in other towns. The position of deputy Town Crier is voluntary, but the position of Town Crier receives a small annual honorarium.

If this unique opportunity appeals to you and you wish to find out more contact the Clerk for a job description and application form.

Anyone interested in the position of Deputy Town Crier should apply in writing to the Clerk by:

23rd September 2013

Mrs VL Brice
2 Woodview Road
Cheddar
Somerset
BS27 2NF

Tel. 07884 264 033
vicky.brice@axbridge-tc.gov.uk

21st August 2013

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 agenda is displayed in advance outside the Town Hall and on the website**

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

The Town Council's website is at: www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk