



# OYEZ!

November 2013

News from your Town Council

## Congratulations to the Town Clerk



At the last meeting of the Council the Mayor congratulated Vicky Brice, the Town Clerk on her success in gaining a Foundation Degree in Community Engagement and Governance. Vicky not only passed with distinction, but was also presented with an award as an outstanding student.

## Bristol Water pipeline

Bristol Water now expects the pipeline project to be completed by next summer, with the land reinstated by 2015.

## Fair Trade Cafe & Mayor's surgery

The Fair Trade cafe and Mayor's surgery held weekly in the Church Rooms will close for the winter after Tuesday 3rd December, re-opening in the spring. Anyone wishing to speak to the Mayor can find his contact details on the Town Hall noticeboard.

## Cheddar Valley Food Bank

A temporary storage facility has been found for the food bank, and volunteer training undertaken. There will be a collection point for food donations at the Farmers' Market in Axbridge.

The Food Bank will be open from 2nd December at Cheddar Baptist Church, along with the CAB who will issue vouchers to those in crisis, which can be immediately swapped for emergency food. Vouchers are also available from Rev. Tim Hawkings or from the Mayor.

The food bank can be contacted at 07922-309369 or 07922-308154

## Farmers' Markets

In addition to the regular market on Saturday 7th December there will be a special Christmas Farmers' Market on Sunday 22nd December.

## Car parks

In anticipation of its taking over of Moorland Street car park the Council has asked Somerset CC to draft an order for off-street parking regulations. Restrictions in the Town Car Park will remain as at present, whilst the Moorland Street car park will have a 2-hour waiting limit. This limit will be extended to 3 hours for disabled drivers in ordinary parking bays, and unlimited in the designated disabled parking bay.

Because car park maintenance work is often hampered by parked cars the Council has purchased barriers to fence off areas scheduled for work.

## Yellow lines

As noted in the September Oyez Somerset County Council has advertised proposed changes to yellow lining in the local press and on the affected streets. In Axbridge Houlgate Way, Old Church Road, Jubilee Road, Hippisley Drive, Parkfield, Orchard Road & Meadow Street are affected. The Council has supported the proposals relating to Axbridge.

It was noted that there has been an increase in parking on yellow lines especially in West Street and High Street where illegal parking on pavements also occurs. This will be brought to the attention of the Parking Services Manager.

## Bus service subsidies

Somerset County Council is proposing a further cut in bus service subsidies. The only service affected in the Axbridge area is the Street - Cheddar- Shipham service which will no longer be extended to Lower Langford in the rush hours.

## Annual report

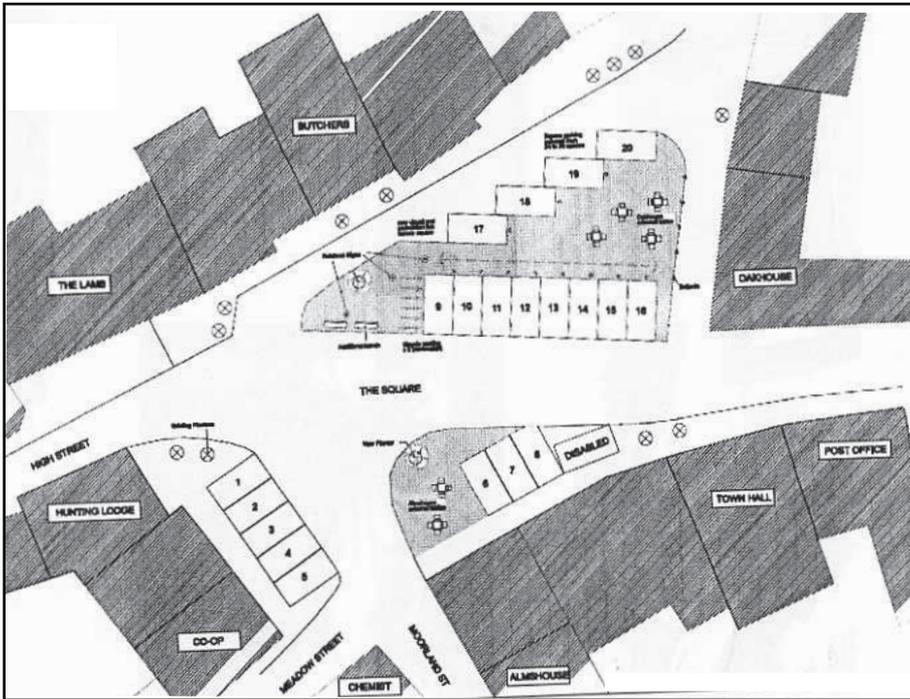
An A5 version of the Council's annual report is being prepared and will be distributed to all households as Oyez in December.

## Church report

Rev. Tim Hawkings expressed his pleasure at the level of support for the Axbridge Remembrance Day service, which this year welcomed the Axbridge Sea Cadets and the scouts, cubs and beavers from Weare.

The church recently hosted a *Concert for Africa*, and he is keen to promote its use as a venue for such events.

A new architect has been appointed for the church, and a report on the condition of the building is awaited.



## The Square

The Council has agreed, subject to 2 conditions, to support proposals developed by Axbridge Community Partnership for changes to the layout of the Square for a 12-month experimental period. The plan aims to improve:

- the appearance of the Square
- safety for pedestrians & vehicles
- spaces for residents & visitors to enjoy

The trial period is intended to stimulate discussion and ensure permanent changes are made with full involvement of residents views.

The main changes will be a change in the direction of parking on the north side of the Square, the creation of a more useable space and walkway, seating area, cycle rack and street furniture and a reduction of 4 parking places.

The full report from the Axbridge Community Partnership can be found amongst the reports for the November Council meeting at:

[www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk/council/Reports/131118reports.pdf](http://www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk/council/Reports/131118reports.pdf)

The Council's support was conditional upon street furniture being of good quality, and the seating area outside the almshouse being sufficiently protected from traffic. The Council has supported the project but made no financial contribution to it.

## Town Crier

The Town Crier has won a competition in Frome. The cup is to be engraved and presented to her.

## Next Council meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be on Monday 9th December at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall. The agenda will be posted in advance on the Council noticeboard outside the Town Hall and on the Council website at:

[www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk/council/index.html](http://www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk/council/index.html)

## Town maintenance contractor

The maintenance contractor worked 10 hours in October. Tasks included work in The Furlong and car park, repair of the bench in Jubilee Road, clearing the path in Marron Close and clearing of rubbish.

The contractor's remit is to be reviewed as work has been done or requested which should be the responsibility of other organisations. This has legal and insurance implications as well as the responsibility of other bodies which must be balanced with the need to maintain and improve the appearance of the town.

## Town Hall chairs

The Council welcomed the Town Trust's provision of new upholstered chairs for the Town Hall.

## Somerset CC Award

The Mayor accompanied Mr and Mrs Peter Scott to the presentation where they received the Somerset Council Chairman's Award which is given in recognition of community service

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](http://www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk)