



# OYEZ!

February 2014

*News from your Town Council*

## Bus fares survey

First Bus is running a survey of people's views on bus fares in this area. The consultation follows a similar one in Bristol last year, which led to changes in the fare structure there.

If you would like to take part in the survey you can find the questionnaire online at:

[www.firstgroup.com/fairerfaresforall](http://www.firstgroup.com/fairerfaresforall)

Paper copies are available from local libraries. The deadline for completing the survey is 16<sup>th</sup> March.

## Pot holes

If you have a concern about potholes in the road the quickest way to get action is to report it directly to Somerset County Council, who are responsible for highways. Go to Somerset County Council's website:

[www.somerset.gov.uk](http://www.somerset.gov.uk)

then follow links to **Report a pothole or defect on the highway**. There is an online form for the purpose.

## Hinkley Point pylon route

The National Grid has modified the route for the pylon line around Southwick near Mark, and is re-consulting locally. Further information can be found at:

[www.hinkleyconnection.co.uk](http://www.hinkleyconnection.co.uk)

## Drainage in The Square

Somerset CC is to investigate the entire culvert system under The Square and repair where necessary as part of its 2014-2015 maintenance works.

## Dogs

### RESPONSIBILITY OF OWNERS:

Dog owners are reminded that they are responsible for the control and behaviour of their dogs. Attacks both on other animals and against members of the public are liable to meet with prosecution, or, as a worse case scenario, with the destruction of the dog. On the public highway dogs should be kept on a lead.

### DOG MESS:

There continues to be a serious problem with dog mess in the town. Owners are reminded that they are required by law to clear up any mess left by their dog. Heavy fines can be imposed for failure to do this.

### DOGS ON THE FURLONG:

- Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times on the Furlong field.
- Dogs must not be allowed in the children's play area

### DOG WARDEN:

The council is investigating the coverage of Axbridge by the Dog Warden service or the possibility of employing a dog warden locally.

### Fair Trade cafe & Mayor's surgery

The Fair Trade cafe, which closed for the winter, will re-open on the 11<sup>th</sup> March. It will continue to be held in the Church Rooms on Tuesday afternoons. As last year the Mayor will hold his weekly surgery there from 2.00 to 4.00pm.

### Flyers with Oyez!

The service for delivering A5 size flyers with Oyez! is proving quite popular. It is open to all community groups, but is restricted to two flyers per edition, and often books up quickly. If your group wishes to use the service it is advisable to book a slot as far in advance as possible.

### Annual assembly

The town's annual assembly will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 8.00 pm in the Town Hall. This is an open meeting for all residents of Axbridge.

### Coffin Lane petition

As well as a symbolic walk from The Square to the New Inn at noon on 1<sup>st</sup> March, the Coffin Lane Campaign is organising a petition to Somerset CC asking for safety improvements on this route. Anyone wishing to sign the petition can find it online at:

[https://secure.avaaz.org/en/petition/Somerset\\_County\\_Council\\_Create\\_a\\_safe\\_footpath\\_and\\_cycleway\\_between\\_Axbridge\\_and\\_Cross/?KPiBTgb](https://secure.avaaz.org/en/petition/Somerset_County_Council_Create_a_safe_footpath_and_cycleway_between_Axbridge_and_Cross/?KPiBTgb)

### Charges for the Furlong

The Council has formally adopted a policy on charging for ad hoc use of the changing rooms and the Furlong:

- £50 for any one day period
- £25 for any half day period
- The council has the discretion, on advice from the Leisure & Recreation Committee to reduce or waive the fee for community activities or minimal use of the facility.
- Use of the Furlong alone cannot be charged as it is a public facility, unless such use is for a substantial organised event which restricts use of the field by members of the public.

### Axbridge Museum

The council received an update on plans for the Museum's new season. There will be a programme of exhibitions which will include a variety of old horseshoes found in local Bristol Water excavations, and a display on the First World War which will include the results of the Roll of Honour project. A drop in visitor numbers last year meant a drop in income, putting a greater strain on the Museum's finances.

## **A371 road works**

Installation of a new water main on the A371 in Rodney Stoke will affect traffic heading to or from Wells. Taking some months to complete, the work will mostly result in traffic light control, but in mid to late 2015, there will be a full closure of the road requiring diversions.

## **Garden of Remembrance**

The council has approved proposals to extend the Garden of Remembrance at Axbridge Cemetery along the cemetery path. The last grave space alongside the path in each row will then be used to provide spaces for interment of ashes now that space for this is very limited in the church cemetery.

## **Booking the Town Hall**

Sarah Emery, the Town Hall Manager, has moved and her published home phone number no longer works. To book the hall please call 0774 856 1114 or use e-mail: sarah@emerybs26.fsnet.co.uk

## **Help for the Somerset Levels**

The Royal Bath & West of England Society has launched a **Somerset Levels Relief Fund**. More information on this can be found on their website at: [www.bathandwest.com](http://www.bathandwest.com)

Donations can be made through the website or sent to:

*Somerset Levels Relief Fund  
c/o Royal Bath & west of England Society  
The Showground  
Shepton Mallet  
BA4 6QN*

This fund was set up before the current floods and is concerned with the long-term problems of the area including dredging.

Axbridge Church is endeavouring to raise funds for the **Somerset Community Foundation** to help alleviate the immediate effects of the flooding and help the communities severely affected.

**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 next meeting will be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

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

**The Town Clerk, 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)**