



OYEZ!

April 2014

News from your Town Council

Axbridge Neighbourhood Plan

The council launched the process of drawing up an Axbridge Neighbourhood Plan last year with an exhibition and a local consultation. The results of the consultation are now being processed, and the council is now ready to widen the planning group to include interested members of the community. The council is advertising for a volunteer willing to lead the project, and contacting again those who had expressed an interest in helping with the preparation of the plan.

Mayor making

Councillor John Albone will finish his year in office as mayor, and deliver his end of year report, at the annual council meeting and Mayor Making in the Town Hall on Monday May 12th at 7.30 for 8.00pm. The mayor elect, Councillor Peter Yusen, and deputy mayor elect Councillor Mrs Jennifer Trotman will then be installed. This event is a public meeting to which all residents are invited.

Coffin Lane campaign

The organisers of the campaign have put forward several proposals for providing a safe route for pedestrians and cyclists between Axbridge and the A38 at Cross. Axbridge Town Council, whilst still supporting the campaign in principle, feels it cannot support the current proposals as they do not address the need for a safe crossing of the A38. The council has asked the organisers to incorporate the problem of that dangerous junction into the campaign as it seems unwise to encourage more walking and cycling whilst that problem still exists.

The campaign organisers are planning to raise funds for the campaign by holding a sponsored walk from Compton Bishop to Cheddar via Axbridge on Saturday 7th June. For further information go to:

www.coffinlane.com or

www.facebook.com/pages/coffin-lane-campaign

Youth shelter

The youth shelter on the Furlong has had a panel missing for some time because of difficulty in

sourcing a replacement. It is now complete again, the missing perspex panel having been replaced, and will be cleaned.

Calendar 2014-15

The council has approved the calendar for the 2014-2015 mayoral year. Important dates to note are the following:

2014:

21 st September	Harvest Service
9 th November	Remembrance Day
20 th December	Santa in the Square

2015:

1 st March	Civic Service
9 th March	Annual Assembly
21 st March	Mayor's Banquet
18 th May	Annual council meeting and mayor making

Council meetings will be at 7.30pm on the third Monday of each month except for December which will be on Monday 8th.

Mobile phone service

Vodafone is consulting local opinion over its plan to upgrade its current mast at Townsend Farm. The proposal is to replace the present mast with another of the same height but with additional antennae and dishes. The proposed mast will also be used by the O2 network. The council has expressed support for the development as it will improve mobile phone connectivity in the area, including the new 4G system.

Reporting dog mess offenders

Action can only be taken against the minority of owners who do not clear up after their dogs if information is received from those who have witnessed incidents of fouling. If you are willing to give such information this can be reported to the Town Clerk (see overleaf) or to the Sedgemoor Dog Warden service by phoning 01278 435210, with as much detail as possible.

The council is investigating ways of increasing coverage of the local area by the dog warden, perhaps in conjunction with Cheddar Parish Council. In the meantime the council has asked the dog warden to target the Furlong and the surrounding footpaths.

Portrait of the Queen

A portrait of the Queen is to be installed in the Town Hall.

Content of Oyez!

The council has reviewed its guidelines on the content of Oyez! This monthly newsletter is primarily intended for the reporting of council business, and reporting or

publicity of other events or matters is restricted to the following:

- matters relating to bodies on which the council is represented
- non-commercial events of a whole community nature (eg. *The Showcase, Fun Day, Carnival, Pageant*)
- for an initial period new groups or projects which have council support
- important information from Somerset, Sedgemoor or other public bodies

Advertising events

The restrictions above are necessary because of limited space in Oyez! and to guard against unfair access to the facility. Other means exist to publicise events in the town, such as:

- A5 flyers for community events can be distributed with Oyez. Only 2 flyers can be taken each month so advance booking is essential (contact Cllr. John Kendall on 732103). A £10 donation is suggested for use of this service.
- The Town Hall noticeboard and the Chamber of Commerce notice board outside the Co-op (contact Sarah Emery, Town Hall Manager on 07748 561114)
- The Cheddar Valley Gazette *What's On* section events@midsomnews.co.uk or 01749-832321
- The Cheddar & Axbridge Paper contact Jennifer Trotman, editor, on 733306 or JMTCAP@gmail.com
- Catch This - the church parish magazine at paul.passey@yahoo.com
- Pulse Radio - contact 742774 or studio@pulseradio.org

Litter bin

A new litter bin is to be installed by the eastbound bus stop in Jubilee Road.

West Street closure

West Street will be closed to traffic for a time during the end of April and beginning of May to enable a new connection to be installed.

Town maintenance contractor

The maintenance contractor worked 17 hours in March. Tasks carried out included litter picking on the Furlong and car park, repair and painting of a bench, clearing and tidying the path in the cemetery, treating the cemetery gates, litter picking and strimming at the lay-by, removing glass at the allotments and repairing the water trough.



AXBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

VOLUNTEER SOUGHT

The Town Council is seeking a volunteer to drive forward the Neighbourhood Plan project.

Axbridge Neighbourhood Plan is an important project which will help shape Axbridge for years to come. It is a community plan which will help deliver the local community's ambitions and needs for the plan period 2014-2034 and will provide a vehicle to guide, promote and enable balanced and sustainable change and growth within Axbridge.

Further information can be obtained from the Town Clerk

The Council launched the process of drawing up an Axbridge Neighbourhood Plan last year with an exhibition and a local consultation and is now seeking a volunteer to drive the project forward - so if you have the enthusiasm, interest and time to Chair a Neighbourhood Plan group let us know!

If you are interested in this role please contact the Town Clerk by 18th May 2014

07884 264033

vicky.brice@axbridge-tc.gov.uk

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 usually held in the Town Hall on the 3rd Monday each month at 7.30 pm

The next meeting will be on Monday 19th May

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