



OYEZ!

April 2015

News from your Town Council

Sub-station danger

There have been reports of children climbing the fence round the electricity substation on the Furlong to retrieve footballs. This has been reported to the electricity company and it is thought that they may talk to children at school about the danger of doing this. It is suggested that parents whose children play on the Furlong, or near any of the other sub-stations in town, warn them that these are dangerous places.

Contacting Somerset CC

Somerset County Council has sent up a single phone number for contacting any department or service:

0300 123 2224

County Council services include childrens services, education, libraries & heritage, roads, parking & transport, adult social care, etc. More information can be found at:

www.somerset.gov.uk

Refuse collections after Bank Holidays

Remember that refuse & recycling collections are, in most cases 1 day later than normal following a bank holiday. Axbridge collection dates following this summer's bank holidays are:

- *May bank holiday* - Thurs. 7th May
- *Early Summer bank holiday* - Thurs 28th May
- *August bank holiday* - Thurs 3rd Sept.

Oyez distributor needed

We would like to recruit a volunteer willing to distribute Oyez in the Townsend area each month. If you would be willing to help in his way please contact the Town Clerk (*contact details overleaf*)

Recent road closures

The council has noted that Somerset Highways failed to properly notify the bus companies about the recent closure of Meadow Street with the result that buses had to run via the by-pass but there was no warning of this on bus stops.

Affordable Housing Policy

The Town Council has approved a policy on affordable housing. This recognises that there is a duty to provide affordable housing where there is an assessed need for local people, or people with a local

connection. Proposals for affordable housing should take local infrastructure issues into account, should be for brownfield/infill sites within the town, not sites outside the development boundary, and should be in line with the Axbridge neighbourhood plan which is in preparation.

Town Council's annual report

The Town Council's annual report will be distributed with the June edition of Oyez. The number of pages will be increased to enable larger print to make it easier to read.

Changes to The Square

The experimental community enhancement project for the Square is making progress. The white lining, which has been left incomplete, will be finished shortly. It is proposed to purchase 2 picnic benches to be placed by the Almshouse and two benches to be sited in the Square, for which donations have been received. The council has also given support to the purchase of more planters, some planted with trees.

Furlong play area

GB Sport & Leisure have been asked to look at problems with the safety surface by the slide, the aerial runway and the rowing machine

Coffin Lane

Some time ago the Council made its support for the proposal for a foot/cycle route to Cross conditional upon a means of safely crossing the A38 being included. The campaign group recently gave the council a presentation about a proposal for a pedestrian refuge on the A38 north of the junction and a marked crossing of the A371 outside Manor Farm. The Council has now given its support in principle for a safe route to Cross with the A38 crossing Included.

Townsend & the by-pass

Discussions have been held with Somerset Highways about issues for cyclists, including bollards, at Townsend. The possibility of having a Stop sign at the bottom of the Townsend slip road has been raised again. Cats-eyes have been removed from the by-pass temporarily in preparation for re-surfacing which is to be done shortly.

Town Maintenance contractor

The maintenance contractor worked 5 hours in March. Most of his time was again spent clearing litter from the Furlong & car park. He is to be asked to clean some of the street name signs in the town which are very dirty

Allotments

There are some vacant allotments available. Anyone interested in having an allotment should contact the Town Clerk (*contact details overleaf*)

Mayor Making

The annual council meeting and Mayor Making will be held on Monday 18th May in the Town Hall, at 7.30 for 8.00pm. This is a public meeting open to all residents of the town.

Community speed watch

It has been suggested that a community speedwatch scheme be re-started. Anyone who would be interested in volunteering to take part in this should contact the Town Clerk (*contact details below*)

Light for Church Steps

A new lamp is to be fixed to the Bank House to illuminate the Church Steps area which is rather dark at night at present.

May Council meetings

Town Council meetings are normally held at

7.30pm on the third Monday of each month but because of timing of bank holidays the May meeting will be held on Monday 1st June. The June meeting will be timed as normal.

Other matters

Some other matters mentioned or discussed at Council during April include:

- Farmers market community stall
- The ball wall at the Furlong
- Dog warden & dog bins
- Gully emptying at the car park & Church Steps
- Speed indicator device
- Civic Awards board
- Purchase of Moorland Street car park
- Mayor's expenses
- Neighbourhood Plan grant application
- Monthly financial report
- Public conveniences maintenance

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 but the May meeting this year has been postponed to Monday 1st June.

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

or by post to PO Box 1184, Axbridge, BS26 2WJ

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